



The Peacekeepers

Association for Ministry to Military Personnel Newsletter

October, 2010

TIM'S SERVICE

by Tim "K9" Kunzweiler, President

This month I wanted to mention two matters to you who are serving far and wide. Those matters are about "far" and "wide."

First is "far." Clarence is a friend of mine. I don't get to see him often but did have one of the rare opportunities to reconnect just last night; I took Communion to him. Clarence lives just outside the little community of Martinsville, Ohio and you can expect to see a lot of corn standing in the fields while getting to his place this time of year (though some corn is also starting to be cut as I write here in mid September). Clarence looks good for being 90 – 'course he'll tell you the *ol' legs* don't get him around so well anymore. Otherwise Clarence still seems strong and has a sharp mind. I didn't arrive until just after 8 PM (partly because of my work schedule) so, for meeting both our needs, I keep our visit short. In our brief sharing, conversation came easily. A benefit of years may be having a wide variety of experiences to draw from – and definitely an opinion or two that can be shared. We've never lived close and have only met a handful of times – usually in connection with Church activities and home visits – but we find no difficulty in sharing about family (his wife, Koneta, who Sheila and I visited while she was alive – but suffering from dementia – would've been 91 now); we talk about water levels in the area; we touch on the past. At last, we come to the present and address the sacrament that brings us



together. In a special moment we share the remembrance of a

sacrifice made once – and for all. I see the joy in Clarence at being able to partake. It's 45 miles, one-way, for me to get to see Clarence. It's not that far. I know you are serving country, family and the Lord much farther away.

Second is "wide." I recently read an article by Gloria Negri of the BOSTON GLOBE about Harry Crosby, a flight officer during WWII and professor. You may have heard of Colonel Crosby's 1993 book, "A Wing and a Prayer," about the Eighth Army Air Force during World War II. Quoting from the article: [In August 1943, planes of the 100th Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force, known as the "Bloody 100th," found that their primary target, an industrial area in Germany's Ruhr Valley, was too obscured by clouds to bomb. They found another target. The plane carrying the lead navigator for the entire Eighth Air Force turned toward the city of Bonn, "listed as a target of opportunity," the navigator, Lieutenant Colonel Harry H. Crosby, later recalled. "It just happened that the night before, after I had been given a pre-briefing, I had returned to my quarters and was playing some records on what in England was called a gramophone. I had the complete Third Symphony [*Eroica*] and the complete Fifth Symphony," remembered Colonel Crosby, who was quoted in Edward Jablonski's 1965 book, "Flying Fortress." "As I played the records, I rather idly read the inscription on the inside cover of the

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album. I noticed without paying much attention that Beethoven had been born in and gone to school in Bonn.” “On the next day, 25,000 feet in the air, when we started our run on Bonn, I looked down and saw a series of buildings which I presumed to be the University of Bonn.” He thought, That must be where Beethoven went to school! He recalled, grabbing the bombardier by the shoulder, and saying “we would not go to Bonn. Over the intercom someone asked me why not and, after giving the pilot a new heading, I explained that this was where Beethoven went to school.” Bonn was a city of learning with an abundance of schoolchildren and civilians, he told his crew. “In those tense moments, for some reason, nobody objected,” he said.]

A huge difference was made that day. How can this relate to us in our daily duty? I’d only suggest that, whenever possible, we look at all situations with as *wide* a focus as possible. It can make a difference. Think: “Is this just a task or is it an opportunity to serve? Is this just a chance meeting or has the Lord caused us to be placed together? Is my action here going to be quickly forgotten or will my light continue to shine in another’s life?” When you can, “consider options for going wide!”

In Christ – Victory! May God bless all Peacekeepers.

Tim “K9” Kunzweiler, President.

Curt's Column by Curt Heaviland

I cannot believe where the year has gone. It seems as though I was just looking forward to spring and warmer weather. Now I’m contemplating the weather cool off a little so I can get some work done outside. It seems, that as you advance in age, the days get shorter and you can’t accomplish as much as you used to. Not only do the days get shorter but the time of productive labor also gets shorter.



I decided to put a new roof over my deck and had it all figured out how to do it. I have been warned by my daughter and the lady that I see on a regular basis, not to get on a ladder. In order to work on the roof I had to get on a ladder. The only way out was to get my 18 year old grandson to take the old roof off and put the new one on. So much for that idea. He did manage to get the old shingles

off but due to other commitments he could not work straight through. Besides it was too darn hot.

I took advantage of the cool mornings and decided to do the job myself. What should have taken about 3 hours to do took me three days. Now that is slowing down. When I confessed to those who had warned me not to get on a ladder I had to take my dressing down and keep my mouth shut. The second part was the hard part.

It seems as though, since it has rained, I still have a little to do to finish the job. In addition I have found that I need to paint the supporting structures and the railing. If all goes well my airless spray gun will still work and I can do the job in an hour or so. That’s what a normal person would take but I’m not certain if I can claim normalcy.

The good thing about the whole event is – I can still get up in the morning and go the whole day. Not rapidly, mind you, but the entire day. I thank the Lord daily for the fact that he has granted me the privilege of living in the United States of America and has awarded me longevity of life. As I look back over the years I see many times when the Lord has blessed me. For this I am grateful. I know that I do not do what I used to but I try to do what health and stamina will allow.

This not being negative but rather accessing my abilities and trying to use them as best I can. I appreciate the efforts of each one of you to keep our country free and under God. It grieves me no end when a group or individuals attempt to take God out of all our daily lives and substitute secular things in His place. Thanks to each one of you for what you do.

GOD BLESS,

Curt

Kid Stuff

by Mary Yocum

We went to Branson the first week of August with four and a half year old Dominic. We went to our favorite buffet for breakfast that first morning.



“What would you like to drink dear” our waitress asked.

“Do you – do you have – do you have orange juice”?

“Yes sweetie, we have orange juice,” she replied as she reached for a glass. “Would you like some orange juice”?

“No.”

Isn't that just like a kid? Was he delaying until he decided to have apple juice? Most likely he just wanted to be contrary.

Not that anyone else in our family know about being contrary – “Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow”? I hear it so often I've developed a couple of pat answers – “With silver bells and cockle shells and one lonely petunia.”

Anyway – I'm sure we've all said no to someone just because we were tired of saying yes. I can think of several examples – but I won't bore you with them.

When we landed in Florida on a recent vacation Dominic heard an announcement coming from speakers. “Mom, is that God talking to me” he asked.

Would that we all could hear the voice of God as clearly as that. In the meantime, I'll listen for those nudges my own mother called “hunches.”

Best wishes and lots of prayers go out to all of you.

Meet Colonel and Elder

Osterhaus by Carl Mesle

A call to the office of Elder and a promotion to the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Air Force in the same week is quite an unusual honor, but Heather Osterhaus did just that. Her promotion to become effective August 1, 2010 took place at the Lackland Air Force Base, near San Antonio, Texas. Heather was ordained in the Shenandoah Branch by High Priests Jim Burdick and Richard Cole. During the ceremony, a fellow church member, Colonel Wayne Talcott gave the Invocation.

In her spare time, Heather teaches a high school church school class and serves as Commander of Cadets in the high school. Early life she earned an advanced degree in environmental and international law.

She entered the Air Force as a First Lieutenant, and as she had advanced in rank, she has served in several different nations. In 1989 she married Ben Osterhaus, a teacher, and they have three children. Two of their sons hope she will not be reassigned because the band in which they perform is scheduled to play a concert in Carnegie Hall next March. While Heather has advanced in rank and income, Ben has taken over the household responsibilities and done well. Heather is the daughter of Ed and Jackie Crawford of Independence, Missouri, and a niece of Mary Sprague Scott and of the late Kay Mesle.

In the combination of Colonel and Elder, Heather has a great opportunity to minister to our members in the services and to work with military Chaplains to broaden her ministry. We are grateful for the long years of work and study she has put into her career which provides her with a rare combination of qualities with which to serve her nation and the Lord. Go Heather!



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Officers:

President: Tim “K9” Kunzweiler, Major, USAF (Ret) cofchristpeacekeepers.president@earthlink.net
Vice President: Curt Heaviland, Lt Colonel, Army (Ret) armr77@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Jennifer Redfern, CWO5, Army Jennifer.redfern@us.army.mil
Treasurer: Stephen Kellogg, Capt, USNR (Ret) stevekellogg@centralmission.org
Newsletter Support: Mary Yocum mary50fine@comcast.net

