

## **Fire Chaplains Conference – April 21, 2008-Day 1**

The conference began with devotions at Huntington Country Inn in Huntington Station NY under the direction of Chief Chaplain William Miles. Following the devotions, the conference began its training at the Huntington Manor Fire Department.

Under the direction of Mr. Raymond D. Shelton, Ph.D. 61 chaplains and guests were taught “Comprehensive Acute Traumatic Stress Management” (CATSM). This training took place in both the morning and afternoon sessions.

Lunch was served by the Huntington Manor Fire Department.

The Memorial Service was held at the St. Peter’s Lutheran Church of Huntington Station with 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Barrie Lyn Foster as the preacher. The memorial list included:

Rev. Nelson R. Elliott	(Past Chief)	Sanford	
Mr. Francis X. Lucas		Wantagh	
Mr. James Newsom		Gordon Heights	
Mr. James Watson		Hagerman	
Deacon L. Douglas Fletcher		Malta Ridge	
Mr. Richard G. Wissmann		East Northport	
Mr. Edmund F. Jankowski		Union FC	
Father J. Gregory Brennan	(Past Chief)	Allegany	
Deacon John B. Munnick, Jr.		Port Chester	
Mr. Christian J. Becker		Hudson Valley FA	
Mr. David L. Catalano		Highland Hose	
Mr. Bernard M. Ofenloch		Hicksville	
Rev. C. Michael Abraham		South Glen Falls	*
Mr. Nicholas Piperato		Cronomer Valley	*
Rev. Stanley Macholz		Islip	*

\* = non-members

Following the Memorial Service, a banquet was held at the Huntington Manor Fire Department in which a number of the deceased families attended and 25 year member certificates were handed out to 2 members present, Rev. Hugh Connaghan and Mr. Richard Holst.

## **Fire Chaplains Conference-April 22, 2008-Day 2**

The day began with devotions lead by Chief Chaplain William Miles.

The conference traveled to John F. Kennedy Airport Terminal 4, where we were given a tour of the 4 chapels on location (Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and Muslim). Chaplain Elaine Utech led the assembly in a devotional service in the Protestant Chapel after which the Rotary Club of JFK hosted a lunch for the conference. Following lunch, we were led to the Post Authority Police Academy-Rescue Training Center for a demonstration of airplane rescue equipment.

The evening meal was hosted at the Huntington Fire Department in Huntington.

The evening program was a chaplain swap while the Board of Directors held their spring meeting and Director James Hanly taught 8 members in the New Chaplain Training.

### **Fire Chaplains Conference – April 23, 2008-Day 3 - Business Meeting**

The 43<sup>rd</sup> annual business meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. with 49 members in attendance by Chief Chaplain Bill Miles. Chaplain William Michatek opened with prayer and Chaplain John Ballo led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Nominating Committee report was presented by Past Chief Dan Bitsko. The committee's slate of nominations are:

Mr. Richard Holst	Chief Chaplain
Rev. Barrie Lyn Foster	1 <sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief
Deacon James Hanly	2 <sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief

and for a three year term on the Board of Directors (ending 2011):

Region 4	Central:	Rev. Bryan Chapman
Region 5	West Central	Mr. Don McGlooin
At-Large:		Rev. James Van Houten

The elections were held as follows:

Motion was made by Chaplain Ted Kolakowski and seconded by Chaplain Ed Blaney to close the nominations for Chief Chaplain and to have the Secretary cast one ballot for Mr. Rich Holst. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Chaplain John Ballo and seconded by Chaplain Ed Blaney to close the nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief and to have the Secretary cast one ballot for Rev. Barrie Lyn Foster. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Chaplain Frank Knower and seconded by Chaplain Herb Roeser to nominate Chaplain Ken Palmer for 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief. Motion was made by Chaplain Don Elthrop and seconded by Chaplain Art Fellows to close the nominations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief. Chaplains Ed Billia and Ed Tappan were appointed tellers for the election.

Both candidates were given an opportunity to speak to the membership. Following this the election was held and the results were:

Chaplain Hanly	19 votes
Chaplain Palmer	30 votes.

Chaplain Palmer was elected to the office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief.

Motion was made by Chaplain John Ballo and seconded by Chaplain Robert Ruston to close the nominations for the Director at Large and to have the Secretary cast one ballot for Rev. Jim Van Houten. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Chaplain Ken Palmer and seconded by Chaplain Charles Keller to close the nominations the West Central Region Director and to have the Secretary cast one ballot for Mr. Don McGloon. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Chaplain Art Fellows and seconded by Chaplain Tom Margrave to nominate Chaplain Brian Fellows for Central Region Director. Motion was made by Chaplain John Ballo and seconded by Chaplain Steve Braungart to close the nominations for Central Region Director.

The election was held and the results were:

Chaplain Chapman	19 votes
Chaplain Fellows	25 votes.

Chaplain Fellows was elected to the office of Central Region Director.

A motion was made by Chaplain Ed Billia and seconded by Chaplain Steve Braungart to destroy the ballots.

Following the election, Executive Secretary Hessel installed the officers and directors for their respective terms and then Past Chief Bitsko installed the Chief Chaplain Rich Holst.

The presentation of the badges and gavel was then given to Chief Chaplain Holst and the newly elected chiefs all gave the membership a word of thanks.

A motion was made by Chaplain John Ballo and seconded by Chaplain Ed Tappan to accept the minutes of the 2007 Conference and Meeting.

## **Reports**

**Chief Report:** Chief Holst stated that his goals were to keep the training moving forward and to learn how to use the computer more fully to send and receive emails.

**1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Report:** 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Foster stated that Chaplain Rich Bolster would be taking over the display stand at various conferences.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief Report:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief Palmer reported for the Membership committee that the membership is presently 475 members and 356 members have paid their 2008 dues.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Ed Billia informed the membership that we have \$ 26,399.21 in checking and \$ 33,227.38 in CD's for a total value of 59,626.59.

Motion was made by Chaplain Ted Duesler and seconded by Chaplain Don Elthrop to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Chaplain John Ballo and seconded by Past Chief Bill Miles to make Chaplain Cecil McFarland an Honorary Member. Motion passed.

An update of Good and Welfare was given and Life Memberships certificates were passed out.

**Committee Reports:**

- A. Memorial – No report
- B. Training – Looking at “sermon prep” ideas for funerals along with proper military protocols.
- C. Supplies – Chaplain Tim Newman reported on the items that were on sale.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Chaplain Sonny Cohen was appointed delegate to the FASNY convention with Chaplain Robert Ruston to serve as the alternate.

**Notes**

Past Chief Alan Carvalho gave a brief history of how the organization became incorporated and encouraged use of the term on official documents

Chaplain Robert Huslinger was hospitalized during the conference but is being released today and is doing okay.

Chaplain Charles Keller moved and Chaplain Herbert Roeser seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Kenneth N. Hessel,  
Executive Secretary