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The Voice for Chaplaincy - Chartered by Congress - Serving Since 1925

Weekly Newsgram - March 22nd, 2017



Photo by Lt. Lisa Lill, DVIDS

Navy Chaplain Corps **Additional Qualification Designator (AQD) for Board Certified Chaplain Certification**

Lieutenant Ronald Wade, Naval Hospital Beaufort (NHB) command chaplain became the first U.S. Navy chaplain to qualify for the Additional Qualification Designator (AQD) 531 as aboard certified chaplain. The new AQD was added to Wade's personnel record on March 7, 2017.

Captain Dale White, Chaplain of Navy Medicine, delivered the news in person while visiting NHB. White stated "during my time as a detailee, I realized when talking to chaplains about their next tour everyone wanted to go to a ship or deployable unit.

When I would ask about serving at a hospital the answer was almost always no." White began to reflect on this and he realized chaplains perceived there was very little incentive to being stationed at a Naval hospital.

White said "It was at that moment I decided as soon as I became the Chaplain of Navy Medicine I would propose an AQD for board certified chaplains."

As he was traveling to NHB on March 6 White was notified that procedures for requesting the AQD had been approved and could now be added to qualifying chaplain's personnel records. With help from Wade's coworkers White surprised him with the news that he was the first chaplain to have the AQD added to his record.

This AQD qualification is now added to the personnel records of all Navy chaplains

who are designated Board Certified Chaplains (BCC) by the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC). The MCA is working closely with the APC to permit military chaplains who are BCC to also qualify for a unique sub-specialty designation - Board Certified Chaplain, Military Sub-Specialty (BCC-MC). This sub-special is in line with other sub-specialties granted by the APC and will recognize unique competencies demonstrated by military chaplains as they have advanced into supervisory and leadership opportunities.

Congratulations Chaplain Wade for this historical achievement.

Lyman Smith
Executive Director

[full article from DVIDS](#)



TAPS

Chaplain Donald Burnett

LTCOL, USA, Retired
Joined MCA 1970
Deceased November, 2016

Chaplain John P. "Jack" Torp

COL, USA, Retired
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Deceased March 11, 2017



Life Member

Chaplain John David Luckesen

LT, CHC, USN
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Regular Member

Chaplain John J. Koopman

Major, USA, Retired
American Baptist
Greene, NY

Top 5 Reasons Professional Chaplains Should Attend the APC Annual Conference

The Association of Professional Chaplains (APC) created the Annual Conference so professional chaplains would have a place to collaborate, connect and continue to learn within their profession. Please review the attached press release which highlights our research on the top reasons chaplains should attend this June 22-25 in Houston, Texas.

[Top Five Reasons](#)



Book for Review

Forever Remembered: When Your Baby Is in Heaven

by Shirley Bulen, RN, Family Advocacy Nurse who served at Ramstein AFB

Grief comes into our lives like a thief. we are shocked, hurt, even bitter. The intensely personal experience may send us into a whirlwind of emotions completely unexpected, always unwanted. The death of a newborn is an immensely grievous sorrow, though often ignored. Here you will walk with others in their journey of grief and find God's compassion and love on the journey.

Please send your request to review to chaplains@mca-usa.org



Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) New Mailing Address for Retirees and Annuitants

The new mailing addresses (beginning May 1) will be:

Retired Pay correspondence: Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Retired Pay
8899 E 56th Street Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

Annuitant Pay correspondence: Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Annuitant
Pay 8899 E 56th Street Indianapolis IN 46249-1300

[News Release Flyer](#)

South Carolina Chapter Update

At the meeting on March 14th, Kevin Shwedo (COL, USA, Retired) addressed the Chapter on the state response to the two devastating floods experience in both 2015 and 2016. COL Shwedo

SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER



retired from Fort Jackson.

The Chapter also voted to donate \$500 to the South Carolina Fund that supports Faith Based Groups working in SC to help residents recover from the floods.

Next meeting - April 25th - in conjunction with the

Executive Committee meeting of the MCA.

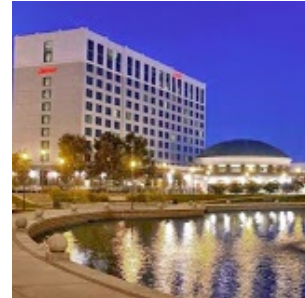
MCA National Institute 2017

October 23 - 26, 2017

[Newport News Marriott at City Center](#)

Newport News, Virginia

Please plan to join us!



Visit our [website](#). There you will be able to [update your contact information](#), [join or pay your dues](#), [make donations](#), [file ministry reports](#), contact our supporters, read *The Military Chaplain* magazine and otherwise connect to resources.

If you missed the March 8th edition of the Newsgram [click here](#)

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AND THOSE THEY SERVE: military members, veterans, and their families at home and around the world

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