



# Cowlitz Chaplaincy

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*A non-profit organization serving Emergency Service Responders  
and Citizens since 1983*

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## June Ushers in Summer

Since our last Newsletter there have been many things happen: our *Les Nelson Memorial Breakfast Chaplaincy Fundraiser*, the 15-Minute Alcohol Awareness Program at the High Schools of the County, the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mt St Helens Eruption, and the sales of The Cowlitz Black Bear Baseball Tickets. These activities plus responding to the many calls of pain and lots of dear people who experienced life-changing events in their lives was the recipe for a very busy two months.

Our Breakfast this year was a very good success and we at the Chaplaincy want those of you who participated in making the fundraiser a fun time. This is our main fundraiser of the year which helps us to meet our needs during the lean times when our monthly donations are low.

We had 74 items donated for this year's auction which turned out to be a great time watching different ones trying to out-bid for their favorite items.

As a County we sure are blessed for the foresight that Sheriff Les Nelson had and his tenacity to bring into existence the Chaplains program. The Nelson family; Wayne, Mark and Dyann along with 15 others were part of making a musical CD Titled, "**Like a Mother's Love ~ Deeper than the Sea.**" They are all local artists, songwriters and musicians. They gave the rights to this CD to the Chaplaincy as an

ongoing fundraiser. You may call us at 360-425-7222 to get a copy of this treasure of wonderful music for your pleasure.

We thank Bob Jones who produced the album and for releasing it to the Chaplaincy. We also want to thank all the artists for their hard work and gracious hearts to make this musical treasure available for the Chaplaincy to help us to help others.

## The 15 Minute Program

The most current updated figures are every 22 minutes there is a teenager that is killed in an alcohol-related crash in America. This year is our 15<sup>th</sup> year of presenting the program to our local senior classes before their Prom nights. So far in Cowlitz County we have NOT lost a teenager whose class has participated in this program. We all thank the Lord for this fact.

This year we were blessed by some great kids that lifted our spirits as we interacted with them, each one with goals and hopes for their futures. We count it a privilege to invest our time in their lives to give examples and information that will save their lives and keep us at the chaplaincy from delivering news that no parent wants to hear – that their child was killed by such a preventable cause of driving while drunk.

## Thirtieth Anniversary of Mt. Saint Helen's Eruption

*Psalms 148:7,9,13*

*"Praise the Lord from the earth, 9. mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars." 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven."*



I was asked again to participate in this year's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mt. Saint Helen's eruption. Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, a date we remember well for us here in Cowlitz County. I stood in amazement at the wonder and awesome restorative hand of our God as He moved across the tapestry of the Mt. Saint Helen area bringing forth new life. Yes, there are still signs of the devastation and yet there is an over abundance of new trees, flowers and wild life. Out of the rubble is a new Mt. Saint Helen and surrounding area which is exposing the wonders of a Master Craftsman, the author of life. What a wonderful God we serve!

**COMING  
SOON.....  
BEEF RAFFLE!**

See information on page 2.....



### TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME!

It's time for baseball in Cowlitz County! The Cowlitz Black Bears, our new expansion team, begins their season on June 4<sup>th</sup> playing the Portland Ports.

If you love baseball you'll love attending the games at LCC's Story Field this summer. Check out their website for a complete schedule.

For each of the Black Bears home games they will show their respect to a non-profit organization. On July 2<sup>nd</sup> the Cowlitz Chaplaincy will be recognized and Chaplain Lyle will be honored to throw out the first pitch.

Come to the game to support the Chaplaincy and cheer for our team.

Tickets can be purchased through the Chaplaincy. One ticket for \$20 is good for four people to attend one game or one person to attend four games. It's a deal! Call the Chaplaincy at 425-7222 to get in on this special offer. The Chaplaincy receives 50% from the sale of these special tickets.

Summer isn't complete without baseball, so come on out to the game!



### WHERE'S THE BEEF?

Once again this year beginning in August the Chaplaincy will hold a raffle to raffle off a side of beef. Tickets will go on sale in early August. The drawing will be held in October.

This year the first prize is a side of beef; second and third prizes are one quarter side of beef.



Start saving your money so you can purchase raffle tickets and help support the Chaplaincy.

### Goodsearch.com Goodshop.com

The Chaplaincy can earn about a penny every time you search the Internet using **Goodsearch.com**. Goodsearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue to the charities its users designate.

Goodshop.com is an on line shopping mall which donates up to 37% of each purchase to your favorite cause. Hundreds of great stores such as Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, Macy's and Barnes & Noble are some of the stores who have teamed up with Goodshop.com.

This is another way to help your Chaplaincy. Remember to enter "**Cowlitz County Sheriff's Chaplaincy**" as the charity you want to support.

Spread the word!

### SUMMER SAFETY

As we look forward to all the summer's activities such as boating, swimming, fishing, picnics and camping, we want to remember to use good sense and remember to be safe.

When swimming in our rivers, lakes or even your backyard pool be sure that children are always supervised. Adults should be within "touch supervision" range. **Don't take chances!** Boaters should be sure to wear life jackets and have rescue equipment available.

Campers and picnickers need to be cautious about insect bites and sunburn. As you pack your picnic basket or load your car or camper, be sure to include sunglasses, sunscreen and insect repellent along with your first aid kit.

Fire safety is so important as we move into those hot summer days. Know the fire restrictions. Build your campfires in existing fire rings and be sure to douse the fire before leaving the area. Never leave your fire unattended.

Hiking is another favorite summer activity. As you prepare for your hike don't forget your compass or GPS, water, extra food, first aid supplies, flashlight and extra batteries and some type of emergency protection or shelter.

As we enjoy the beautiful summer days remember that our children will be riding bicycles, scooters, heelys and skateboards on the streets and sidewalks. **Be alert!**

**Have a safe and happy summer.**

**Chaplain Lyle**

## Just Some Thoughts...

Have you ever wondered why life seems to come at us in “groups?” You know what I mean – groups of three or groups of five or whatever? Life seems to have a pattern to it – doesn’t it? Let me share some of the ‘pattern’ in my life lately – things that have come in five year’ increments.

One 5-year cycle saw us getting back to doing



the “**Every-15-Minute**” program at all of our county High Schools this year. We had been absent from Longview Schools since 2005. This year was an incredibly blessed year – the students in each school were great – cooperation from school staff was superb, and the support of the local law enforcement/fire agencies was ‘above and beyond.’ As my ninth year with the program, I have to say it was the best! I “*know because I know*” that lives have been saved because of this programs battle against drinking and driving. By the end of the ‘season’ we’re all pretty tired, but look back and say it was worth it all. Special thanks to the Superintendent and Principals of RA Long and Mark Morris for letting us back in. Without support of several local businesses/groups this vital program could not exist – so “THANKS” to you too!

These past five years I’ve ‘made the circuit’ each May asking government officials to proclaim the week of May 15<sup>th</sup> as **National Police Week**. This week was first established by

President Kennedy in 1962. I make a presentation at each of their meetings trying to identify a different facet of the sacrifices law enforcement personnel make each day of their lives. In 2009 there were 116 U.S. law enforcement personnel killed in the Line of Duty. Along with local officers and deputies, I attended the LODD



Memorials for 6 of the 7 officer’s killed in Washington State in 2009. I’ll never forget watching the kids of these fallen heroes walk into the memorials. As 2009 ended, 15 kids were without a mom or dad simply because their parent wore a badge and a gun.

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**Lewis County Deputy Mike Gallagher had 2 children.**  
**Seattle PD Officer Timothy Brenton had 2 children.**  
**Lakewood PD Officer Tina Griswald had 2 children.**  
**Lakewood PD Officer Ronald Owens had 1 child.**  
**Lakewood PD Officer Greg Richards had 3 children.**  
**Lakewood PD Sgt Mike Renninger had 3 children.**  
**Pierce County Deputy Kent Mundell had 2 children.**

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The third thing I want to share about (I said – things “come in groups, right?”) – is the great success of our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraiser Breakfast on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Now known as the **Les Nelson Memorial Breakfast** the event honors Cowlitz Chaplaincy founder, Sheriff Les Nelson. Les died in March and it just “*seemed right*” to name

our annual fundraiser in his honor. Without his insight and fortitude there would be no Chaplaincy in Cowlitz County. We had 280+ people attend and raised more support than ever before. Clark County Sheriff Garry Lucas was our speaker and did an excellent job of reminding people why this ministry is so vital to our community. Our auctioneer (Brian McClain) got the crowd off to a rousing start and everyone had a fun morning. Special “THANKS” to the following churches/groups who helped cover the cost of the meal this year: North Gate City Church, Shekianh, Cowlitz Valley Christian Center, Father’s House, Columbia Heights Assembly of God, East Hills Alliance, Northlake Baptist, Abundant Life Nazarene, Faith Family Christian Center, K-LV 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist, and the IAFF Local 3828. Mark Saturday, April 23, 2011 for next year!

Well, that’s kind of been the ‘pattern’ in my world lately (surrounded by call-outs for people in crisis). I remain forever blessed because of your support and prayers. I thank God for you! Shalom!

*Chap Steve*

*Like a Mother’s Love CD  
“Deeper than the Sea”*

*A collection of music featuring local musical artists (including Sheriff Mark Nelson) mastered by Dan Wallis. Album concept and production by Bob Jones.*

**Available for a \$15.00 donation to Cowlitz Chaplaincy. Call 360-425-7222 to get yours today.**