

**Special  
points of  
interest:**

- The Legacy of Calvin P. Titus
- The Unit Mission Statement
- SGM Martinez on the name change
- Drill and Ceremony
- Finding a Servant's Heart
- From Wyoming to NYC
- Army Career Tracker

**Inside this  
issue:**

Integrated Rel. Support 2

Mission Accomplished? 3

Cover Story Continues 4

Gifts With No Bounds 6

Left, Left, Left, Right! 7

A Servant's Heart 8

Wyoming to NYC! 10

A Soldier's – Soldier 11

# The Pulse

**“The latest news in Religious Affairs”**

Volume 1, Issue 2

1 November 2017

## In His Shoes: Calvin P. Titus

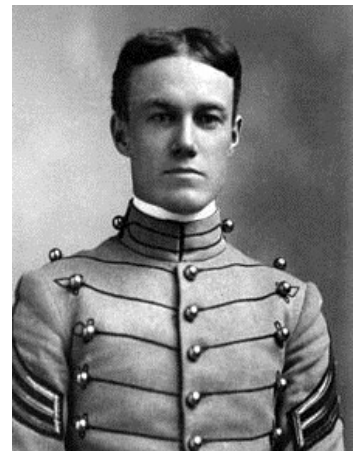
*PFC Roy Uptain  
56M AIT Student  
Fort Jackson, SC*

It is August 14th, 1900 and Corporal Calvin Pearl Titus is 25 feet above the ground, clinging by his fingertips to the edges of large, red, crumbling bricks. The day is blazing hot and humid. His eyes sting from the salt that gathers in his eyebrows and hangs in beads of sweat off his lashes. The red dust from the walls streaks his hands and arms and threatens to loosen his hold.

He is afraid for his life, but it isn't the fall

that scares him. It is the rifles of the Society of Righteousness and Harmonious Fists (remembered by us as Boxers) that await him atop the walls of Peking (modern-day Beijing). He carefully raises his head to see through firing port, expecting any moment to hear a shout of alarm or feel the impact of a bullet tearing through his flesh and sending him hurdling to the cobblestones below.

As a new recruit to the family of Chaplain Assistants (soon to be Religious Affairs Specialists), I was eager to



**Calvin P. Titus**

discover what it looks like to be rock-star 56Mike. I needed role models from my MOS who would inspire me to become an expert in my field and a fighting force to be [...continued on pg. 4](#)

## Your Gifts Will Make Room for You

*SSG Yvonne Brooks  
Force Structure NCO  
USACHCS*

I currently sit patiently in the basement of a building at Fort Bliss, Texas, where I am considered a holdover for the Conus Replacement Center (CRC). I'm here awaiting my Visa in order to fulfill an assign-

ment to Sinai, Egypt, and I felt the need to answer the call and write an encouraging article.

I've been in holdover status for 10 weeks now and although my situation is unusual and to no fault of the Army, I can't help but to think that my presence here has a pur-

pose. Over these two months, the cadre at CRC has found ways to help my time pass. If you know me, you understand how important it is for me to remain productive because I absolutely love interaction with people. So in having me “man” the front desk, the staff observed

[...continued on pg. 6](#)



*“I expect Religious Affairs Specialists to be fully integrated within your unit of assignment at all levels of command. The mission is still the same: provide meaningful religious support to Soldiers, Family members, and authorized civilians.”*

*-SGM Martinez*

## Integrated Religious Support

*SGM Ralph Martinez  
Regimental SGM  
HQDA, OCCH*

On 1 October 2017, our Military Occupational Specialty title officially changed to Religious Affairs Specialist. With this name change, our roles, and functions in providing religious support didn't change, we will always assist our Chaplains to ensure our Soldiers have the opportunity of free exercise of religion. As we move forward with our new title, we now must unite our current core capabilities of religious operations, spiritual fitness, and basic human interaction tasks with additional functions and re-

sponsibilities.

As I stated in the first edition of the Pulse, I expect Religious Affairs Specialists to be fully **integrated** within your unit of assignment at all levels of command. The mission is still the same: provide meaningful religious support to Soldiers, Family members, and authorized civilians. Chaplains and Religious Affairs Specialists remain at the heart of Soldier resiliency and Army Family resiliency. The Religious Affairs Specialist is expected to integrate the Unit Ministry Team (UMT) into the unit mission and move with the chaplain

throughout the respective area of operations.

Under the direction of the chaplain, the Religious Affairs Specialist will coordinate and synchronize religious support for their unit. Chaplains and Religious Affairs Specialists must be responsive and adaptable to the challenges of working in a complex operational environment where chaplain sections and UMTs must plan, prepare, execute, and integrate religious support throughout all levels of war. The integration of UMTs or Chaplain Sections will continue to sustain programs that

*...continued on pg. 3*

## Chaplain Corps Leadership



*Chaplain, Major General  
Paul K. Hurley  
U.S. Army  
Chief of Chaplains*



*Chaplain, Brig. General  
Thomas L. Solhjøm  
Deputy,  
Chief of Chaplains*



*Sergeant Major  
Ralph M. Martinez  
Chaplain Corps  
Regimental Sergeant Major*

# Integrated Religious Support *(continued from pg. 2)*

will nurture ethical decision-making and facilitate religious formation and spiritual development as an inseparable part of their unit readiness.

Finally, you must successfully execute Religious Support Operations (RSO). UMTs must be fully

integrated into the operations process. A well-organized plan will identify potential problems that may impede the delivery of religious support, anticipate key events and assist in adapting to changing circumstances. It is our fundamental task to effec-

tively coordinate religious support to sustain spiritual readiness within our task organization. Therefore, the UMTs must integrate and prioritize their efforts by directing and synchronizing RSOs within their command. NCOs, I charge you with training and maintaining this vision throughout the Chaplain Corps.

## Can the Mission be Accomplished?

*SFC Dustin Hall*

*Senior Career Management NCO  
USACHCS*

Every organization in the Army prides itself on developing a good mission statement. Often times mission statements involve core values and competencies that make the organization stand out. While there is a great deal of pride in these banners that a unit aspires to accomplish, there often lacks one critical element that can be the determining factor in whether or not personnel will rally behind it. Namely, is the mission (really big goal) achievable? Or is the mission stated as a nebulous and continual process with no end? Does it contain language that allows the unit to aspire to its completion?

A mission statement that is too vague cannot be accomplished and can hurt an organization more than help it. Soldiers and DA Civilians, regardless of the crafty words, will have a near-impossible time supporting something that they cannot see an end to. It might even cause the employees to become lost about the unit's purpose. For example, if you told a group of Soldiers that "our mission is to live the Army Values each day at work," then you've basically only given them a catch-



phrase that will echo as a truth throughout eternity. It's really something different entirely, it's more of a vision. While on face value there is substance, in reality, it's a never-ending mission that will likely be put on a back burner by driven employees who want to help the organization succeed in measureable ways. Employees, by human nature, want to achieve, improve, and grow. To do so, they need an incentive that can be completed, not just a catchy phrase.

The challenge, regardless of position as a Religious Affairs

Specialist, is to be an organizational thinker. Analyze the unit mission and provide recommendations that can help to improve the culture of the team. There is often the idea that a Commander writes the mission statement and then the organization is incapable of adapting it until the next Commander arrives (which can be years). This thinking is false. This thinking is detrimental to developing a learning organization where there is shared understanding and collaborative effort. Picture a unit with a quarterly mission. Where a Commander stands before the unit and gives the unit something that can be accomplished measurably within the quarter. The unit now has an achievable goal to rally behind, and the Commander has something to gauge the unit's success. Afterwards, the next four month goal can be declared.

Be value added to the unit by not only working within the confines of the current mission, but instead be a critical thinker who helps evaluate and revise the mission altogether. Commanders will always appreciate staff officers and enlisted members who possess organizational focus.



**“Calvin Pearl Titus embodies the principle that your actions produce your habits, your habits produce your character, and your character forms your legacy”**



**The Order of Titus Medallion: given to Observer/Coach Trainers who successfully complete a tour of duty and are nominated through Command channels.**

## Calvin P. Titus: A Role Model *(continued from pg. 1)*

reckoned with. My search for inspiration began at the Chaplain's Museum at Ft. Jackson.

While being led from one exhibit to another, I learned about those heroic chaplains and chaplains assistants who saved soldiers from sinking ships, fed soldiers caught in Japanese prisoner camps, risked their lives to provide spiritual support to the front lines, and so much more. But I never felt that swelling of the heart, that tear of admiration in the corner of the eye, that thirst to know every detail of the story that comes when you meet your next personal hero.

Then one day I was waiting in the hallway of the Chaplain's school when a plaque on the wall caught my eye. It told the story of how Corporal Calvin Titus received the Medal of Honor for helping to capture the city of Peking and end the Boxer rebellion.

During the battle for control of Peking, Corporal Titus demonstrated a profound sense of physical courage. ARDP 6-22, the Army's guide to leadership, states, "Personal courage is not the absence of fear. It is the ability to put fear aside and do what is necessary" (2012, 3-3). Corporal Titus was willing to stare death in the eye for the sake of a mission that he knew would destroy forces of evil oppression and bring liberty to the people of China.

It is one thing to know the right thing to do. It is another thing to act swiftly on that knowledge when that moment of crisis comes. Corporal Titus knew it was right to put his life on the line to beat the Boxers and he acted on that resolve with swift determination.

At times I wonder whether or not I will act with courage when that crisis comes knocking at my door. But, in those moments of reflection, I am comforted by the words of another Medal of Honor recipient-- Brigadier General Lawrence Chamberlain, who wrote in his memoirs, "We know not of the future, and cannot plan for it much. But we can hold our spirits and our bodies so pure and high, we may cherish such thoughts and such ideals, and dream such dreams of lofty purpose, that we can determine and know what manner of men we will be whenever and wherever the hour strikes that calls to noble action... No man becomes suddenly different from his habit and cherished thought."

This quote reminds me that choosing to follow in the tracks of heroic men helps me "dream dreams of lofty purpose." I too want to fight for the cause of freedom and justice. I too want to protect the weak from the abuse of power. I too want to destroy those who use fear and intimidation to gain power.

By examining the story of their lives, I get to see what it is like to live out the Army Values day after day and for a lifetime. I learn from them how to be a citizen and Soldier of honor.

Later that week I researched Corporal Titus again and read about his years of service--how he completed seminary in order to be a chaplain only to be told by the Army that they didn't recognize his denomination, how he reenlisted anyway as a chaplain assistant so he could go on serving the Soldiers he cared so much about, and how he ended his career as a Lieutenant Colonel teaching officers for the Army Reserve.

Throughout his career Lieutenant

...continued on [next page](#)

Colonel Titus demonstrated a profound heart of selfless service. To him, it wasn't a rule he forced himself to live by; it was a sincere conviction inspired by his religious faith.

For me the hardest thing about the Army Values is getting them from my head to my heart. I am still learning the lesson that it is not enough to adhere to the Army Values out of some pragmatic desire to advance my career or "be a better person." While these goals may inspire some, I needed something more--something deeper.

Over the past 10 weeks of BCT and 5 weeks of AIT, I have come to the conviction that they Army Values are the result of the transcendent truth

that orders our world. It is my belief in the creator God of the Bible that helped me realize that the Army Values enable me, as it enabled Calvin Titus, to "love God and love my neighbor" in everyday life.

To me, Lieutenant Colonel Calvin Pearl Titus embodies the principle that your desires determine your actions, your actions produce your habits, your habits produce your character, and your character forms your legacy. He has a legacy of faithful, honorable service to his country, and that, even more than his heroics at Peking, makes him worthy of the Medal of Honor and of our admiration and emulation.



Image retrieved 25 SEP 2017 from chinahrhyming.com



# FOR TALENT

*“Often times sadly, the good ideas rarely make it past a conversation because they are missing one critical element: a vessel to travel”*

## Gifts with No Bounds *(continued from pg. 1)*

my energy with those deploying through this center. What a difference a warm smile can make, especially considering the seriousness of the challenges that lay ahead. Quickly, they trained me to help facilitate welcome briefings, assist the cadre with issuing equipment and they granted me privileges needed to carry out tasks that assist with validating those deploying.

In the midst of these activities, I find myself having more and more contact with deploying personnel, including a few members of our Corps. On several occasions I’ve pulled from my Master Resiliency Trainer skills to ease the frustrations of civilian employees who are pending waivers. One evening I remember speaking with a DOD civilian as she was having trouble sleeping, worrying about the upcoming HEAT/MET (vehicle rollover) training. Her anxiety began to subside as I showed her a short

rollover clip and reassured her that she would be fine. She was grateful for the time that I spent with her, I was thankful to be in the position to help. Even though I am not the assigned Religious Affairs Specialist at CRC, my ministry through reassurance, optimism and genuine assistance is a daily call.

What Religious Affairs Specialists do is needed everywhere. One of our SGMs (now retired) once told me, “Don’t ever allow anyone or any situation to dim your light”. In a situation such as this, I could sit in my room or go to the PX in a dreary routine, but I elect to be an encouragement to others. Remember when I said that I work out of a basement? Well there is some symbolism to my location. When I leave my temporary workstation at close of business, I walk up the stairs and out into the sunshine, content in the fact that God has and always will take care of me. He shows me that my gifts and training as a 56M will always make room for me.

## How to Make a Change: Write

*The Pulse Staff*  
*USACHCS*

If you’ve never heard a Soldier discuss ways that the Army could be better, “if this” or “if that,” then just wait ten seconds and you will. This isn’t new or unique to the Army. In fact, many companies in the civilian workforce experience this as well. The reason is simple: the Army has some of the brightest minds in the world and they don’t like to settle when something can be done better. Often times sadly, the good ideas rarely make it past a conversation because they are

missing one critical element: a vessel to travel.

A good idea or story without a way to reach people is equivalent to spraying air freshener in your house and expecting the entire State to smell better. The Pulse is the vessel that can take your ideas and stories, or best practices, and ensure the Army knows about them.

If you want to change your unit, the Chaplain Corps, or even the Army—you must practice the art of writing. We’re looking forward to your submission!

# Bring Back Drill and Ceremony

*SFC Timothy Seppala*  
*Senior Career Management NCO*  
*USACHCS*

PLATOON, ATTENTION!

RIGHT, FACE!

FORWARD, MARCH!

Those commands were commonplace in the Army in the days prior to the persistent conflict in which we have found ourselves over the past sixteen years. Unfortunately, since the beginning of America's longest war, drill and ceremony has served in a diminished role in the lives of today's Soldiers. After basic training, many of today's Soldiers and Leaders do not conduct any marching maneuvers until they attend NCOES schools. This is a travesty. Drill and ceremony is an essential component to instilling pride and discipline in Soldiers and in developing a Leader's ability to lead with confidence. It is during drill and ceremony that Soldiers learn to respond instantly to a Leader's command. It is during drill and ceremony that Leaders learn to use their "command voice" and make decisions on the spot as they move their unit from one place to another, all the while keeping the

formation in step with the sound of cadence being called at 120 steps per minute.

If you ask a leader what they think about today's Soldiers, many of them will say that they are smart, but that they lack discipline. I agree, but the very thing that many leaders bemoan about the Soldiers they lead is directly the fault of the leaders themselves. It is not hard to conduct drill and ceremony, in fact it is one of the easiest training events that a leader can conduct with their Soldiers. All you need is at least three Soldiers and a patch of ground and you can conduct team-level drill and ceremony. This also works for an excellent team-building event for squads and

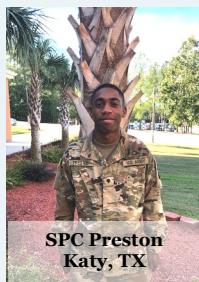


*Chaplain School and Fort Jackson Joint Color Guard*

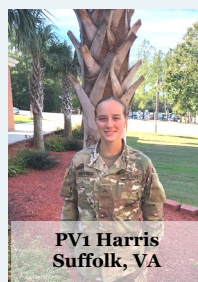
sections. As the leaders and Soldiers become more confident in their ability, they will begin to take pride in their accomplishments and in their organization.

Leaders become better leaders, and Soldiers become better Soldiers when they learn to march together as a unit. General Washington knew this, which is why he brought in the Prussian Baron Friedrich Von Steuben to train the Continental Army. It is time we get back to our roots and back on the parade field!

## The AIT "56 Mic": What quality is most important for a Religious Affairs Specialist?



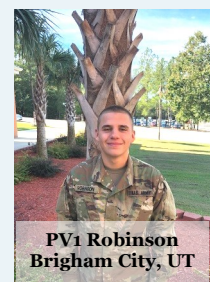
SPC Preston  
Katy, TX



PV1 Harris  
Suffolk, VA



PV2 Shoemaker  
York, PA



PV1 Robinson  
Brigham City, UT

"I believe Religious Affairs Specialists need to be open-minded."

"Motivation—to always be ready to help others."

"Religious Affairs Specialists need to be ready for anything."

"Religious Affairs Specialists must be kind and caring."

***“If you find yourself trying to define religious support, look no further than doctrine found in FM 1-05 and administrative guidance in AR 165-1.”***



## Finding Your Servant's Heart

*SGM Michael I. Bair  
Chief Career Management NCO  
HQDA, OCCH*

As we transition into our new MOS title, it is important that we don't forget the three 56M core capabilities; integrate religious operations, spiritual fitness, and basic human interaction tasks and the mission of the Chaplain Corps as stated in FM 1-05 (Religious Support, October 5, 2012), “to provide religious support to the Army across unified land operations by assisting the commander in providing for the free exercise of religion and providing religious, moral, and ethical leadership.” AR 165-1 (Army Chaplain Corps Activities, June 23, 2015) repeatedly talks about the Religious Affairs Specialist's role in providing expertise in religious support and the commander's religious support operations. The part that we must never forget is that we are supporting the commander “in responding to the needs of Soldiers, Family members, and other authorized personnel.”

If you find yourself trying to define religious support, look no further than doctrine found in FM 1-05 and administrative guidance in AR 165-1. FM 1-05 lists the Religious Support Core Competencies as Nurture the Living, Care for the Wounded, and Honor the Fallen and provides a partial list of Religious Support Functions as:

- Advising the command on religion, morals, morale, and ethical issues
- Leadership of religious worship
- Administration of religious rites, sacraments, and ordinances
- Provision of pastoral care and counseling
- Teaching and management of religious education
- Family-life ministry (division/expeditionary support command

(ESC))

- Provision of professional support to the command and staff
- Management and administration of personnel, facilities, and funds necessary to the religious support mission
- Liaison with local or host-nation religious leaders as directed by the commander
- Conduct of religious support planning, training, and operations

AR 165-1 states, “Religious support includes providing essential elements of religion to include worship, religious rites, sacraments and ordinances, holy days and observances, pastoral care and counseling, and religious education.” Religious Affairs Specialists have a primary or supporting role in each of the Competencies, Religious Support Functions, and Essential Elements of Religion. Sometimes, we even find ourselves working independently of the chaplain in this support role. It's also important to remember, “the chaplain determines UMT priority of effort and decides when simultaneous, independent operations are necessary as an exception.”

We are in the people business. Some of the tasks we are asked to complete, such as providing external advisement to a commander may tempt us to feel more conspicuous as valued members of the unit, but these are only one part of our tasks. Again, we are in the people business. I submit that you must have at your core a servant's heart. Some of the Religious Support tasks we are asked to complete can become old and dull... police calls around the chapel, setting up refreshments, counting the offering, managing the chaplain's calendar, organizing the religious texts in the pews, managing the registration for events,

...continued on [next page](#)



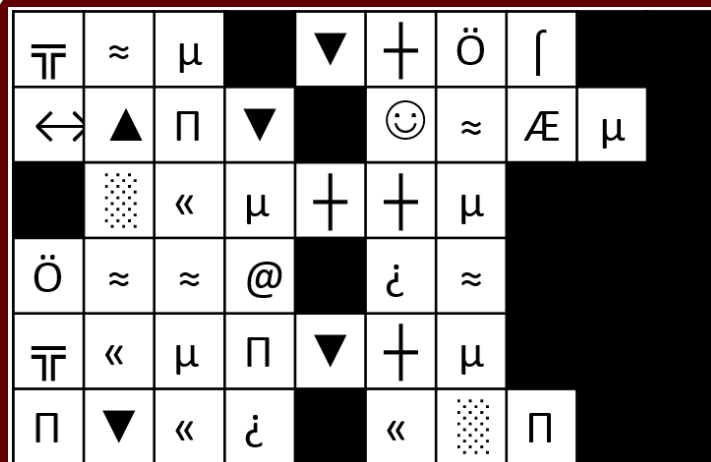
## A Servant's Heart

(continue from page 8)

etc. However, if you know who you are and why you serve, no task in support of the Soldiers and Family members is truly dull.

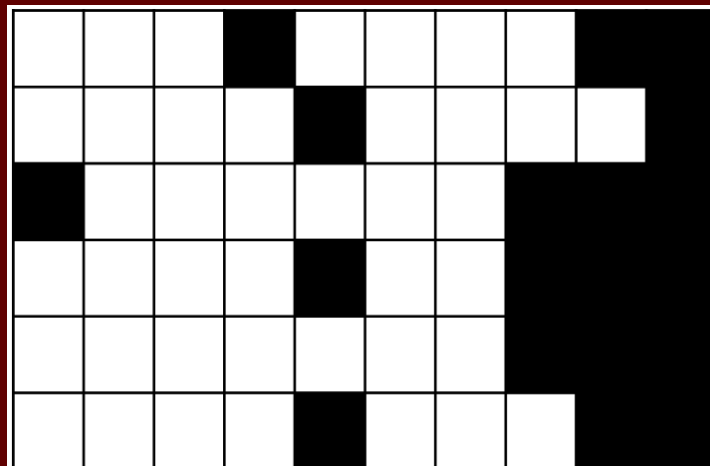
Take time to hone your basic human interaction tasks. You may be an extreme introvert, but in order to be successful you must learn to exercise some extraverted tendencies and make yourself available to Soldiers. You have to put yourself out there by participating in typical everyday Soldering tasks. Showing up for PRT, participating in road marches, conducting motor stables, attending CSM/1SG meetings, writing SOPs and honing your Warrior Skills are part of being a good Soldier. Soldiers respond best to other Soldiers. If you want to feel like a valued member of the unit, act like a valued member of the unit. All of these activities are your opportunity to support the Commander in responding to needs of the Soldiers.

Our name may have changed, but our mission remains the same. Take time to evaluate who you are... are you a servant at heart? Are you willing to do what needs to be done to integrate religious operations, spiritual fitness, and basic human interaction tasks? If so, this is the job for you! There is no better job in the Army than directly supporting the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Take pride in what you do and never forget that you are a valued member of the U.S. Army and the Chaplain Corps. Pro Deo et Patria.



### CRACK THE CODE

Be the first to send the solution to  
[dustin.m.hall2.mil@mail.mil](mailto:dustin.m.hall2.mil@mail.mil) to win!



## 56 Mike Spotlight: Initial Military Training NCOIC



Born in Pikensville, Alabama, SFC Tamara Hornbaker entered the Army in 2003. She currently serves as the Senior Initial Military Training (IMT) NCO and is responsible for the successful management of both the Chaplain Officer Basic Leader Course for new Chaplains, as well as the Advanced Individual Training course for Religious Affairs Specialists.



During her time in IMT, SFC Hornbaker has lead the Chaplain School in the transitional title change of 56Ms, and has been a leader on many of the initiatives inherent in that change. SFC Hornbaker has managed a curriculum overhaul and has helped to better-define what it means to be a Religious Affairs Specialist. For her hard work and impact to the Chaplain Corps, The Pulse salutes you with this coin SFC Hornbaker!

**“...along with normal operations of conducting religious support activities, leading Soldiers and supporting Garrison functions and events lead to busy weeks and months.”**



## A “Wyoming Boy” Stationed in NYC

*Ssg Chris Patchen  
Garrison Chaplain NCOIC  
USAG, Fort Hamilton, NY*

A minute is defined as 60 seconds, unless it is a New York Minute (NYM). The late Johnny Carson defined a NYM as “the interval between a Manhattan traffic light turning green and the guy behind you honking his horn.” So what can you do in a NYM?

For starters, you can drive 8 miles in 75 minutes or you can run along the water for 2 miles and watch the sun rise on the Statue of Liberty and One World Trade Center. In order to play hard, you have to work hard. Having to wear more “hats” than there are days in the week helps ward off that nasty “clean desk” syndrome. From Chaplaincy Resource Management to driving for the Secretary of Defense. From being the Master of Ceremonies for ceremonies and observances to providing Area Coverage for 8 million people who speak over 200 languages with over 100 distinctive faith groups. From leading a parade to observing and controlling a full scale exercise. All of the above, along with normal operations of conducting religious support activities, leading Soldiers and supporting Garrison functions and events lead to busy weeks and months.

With hard work complete, it is time to play hard. What is your “poison?” Sports? Cheer your voice away. With 10 local professional organizations, community sports leagues and a healthy Army Intramural Sports program, there is always a chance to “root, root, root for the home team.” Does the stage and spotlight make you giddy? There is Broadway, Off-Broadway, Off-Off-Broadway and neighborhood acting troupes all wanting you to watch. Music your thing? Classical, rock, country, hip-hop, electronic, and karaoke will fill your ears from the big stage to your local dive bar to the subway stations. Are you



a foodie? Every cuisine your palate can imagine is available; and most of the time you don't even have to leave your house. You know a pie (pizza) joint is good when the New York Police Department is triple parked, eating their slices off the hood of their patrol cars. Does volunteering and philanthropy warm the cockles of your heart? Each population demographic has a non-profit organization. Every occasion for play has the opportunity to volunteer. For me, the New York City Joint Color Guard, Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing and the PGA Tour have kept me nice and toasty. Suppose you are artistic and can't find inspiration or muse, then you may want to conduct a self-assessment and then begin to dream with open eyes.

In a city that never sleeps, when does one rest? Well, I will let you know when I figure it out; but most likely after I PCS. Many musicians have penned and sung about New York City, from the Beastie Boys to George Gershwin; from Taylor Swift to the Ramones, from Jay-Z and Alicia Keys to Billy Joel. At the end of my tour here at Fort Hamilton, this boy from Wyoming, now adopted by New York City, will leave with the words of Frank Sinatra forever inscribed on my life: “If I can make it here, I'll make it anywhere. It's up to you New York, New York.”

# The Enlisted Soldier's—Soldier:

*SPC Josiah Stowe  
Brigade Religious Affairs NCO  
2nd BCT, 101 ABN DIV*

The Moral Compass of the Unit, the Enlisted Soldier's Soldier, the friend. Religious Affairs Specialists have an obligation to be both the most morally upright Soldier and an obligation to be the most approachable Soldier. For myself, being in an infantry unit, performing both isn't exactly easy. I cannot stand on the moral high ground if I am drinking or partying every night with the Infantry, but I cannot truly be integrated into the unit if I am the buzzkill, constantly reminding my Soldiers that their favorite off-duty actions are inherently immoral. 56Ms are called to be a beacon of hope, happiness, and morality, but not so high as to be unreachable. And so we have to find a balance.

Oddly enough, I have found that balance in "Ministry of Presence". I will go where my Soldiers go (with a few exceptions). But while I go where they go, I do not necessarily do what they do. I will keep my morality intact, regardless of the situation I am placed in. The darkest places are in most need of a light. For example, if a group of my Soldiers are going to a party, I might go with them... as their designated driver. I've found that my enlisted Soldiers are more willing to talk to me than the Chaplain, even more so when they've had a few drinks. This gives me the unique opportunity to identify more at-risk Soldiers, and allows me to better steer them toward the help they need.

I also understand that resisting temptation may be more difficult for some, and I would suggest using wisdom when deciding where you will go, or if you should go at all, always keeping in mind the temptation you might be exposed to. In our line of work, reputation is everything, and a 56M with a bad reputation can be a hindrance to the Chaplain Corps mission.

## I Want You



## To Help PPO!

The Personnel Proponent Office (PPO) is on the front-lines, in the trenches, of change and they are fighting for a better tomorrow for you! I want YOU to pick up a pen and paper and support the effort. Send them your ideas to improve our MOS. Be a voice of change and help keep their efforts moving forward. Pro Deo Et Patria!

Send your innovative ideas to:

SFC Timothy Seppela  
[timothy.f.seppala.mil@mail.mil](mailto:timothy.f.seppala.mil@mail.mil)





# “ACT NOW”: It’s Your Career!

*SSG Denise Min  
Senior Career Management NCO  
USACHCS*

I’m sure you’ve heard of the Army Career Tracker (ACT) Portal by now. Especially if you’ve PCS’d or sponsored a PCS’ing Soldier within the last year, you’ve been on ACT to work with the Total

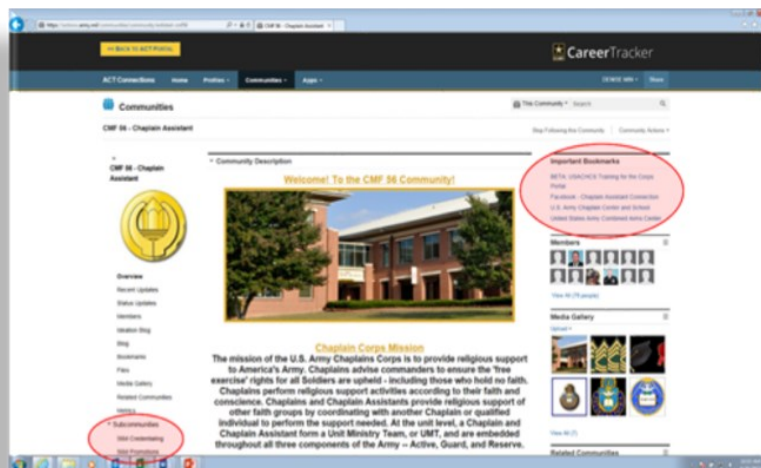
Army Sponsorship Program (TASP) portion of the Portal. But did you know that there is SO MUCH more to ACT than just Sponsorship?? I encourage you to spend some time on the ACT Portal and see what it has to offer. ACT allows you to track your own career (appropriately named, am I right??) as well as the careers of your subordinates and mentees. It is a digital hub for much of your Army information... It pulls information from various databases, including (but not limited to) Human Resources Command (HRC) – ERB information; the Integrated Total Army Personnel Database (ITAPDB) or

Reserve Component Management System (RCMS) – your assignment history; the Army Learning Management System (ALMS) and

gated UMT leaders or subordinates.

And the fun of ACT doesn’t end with career tracking and development!

The newest addition to the Portal are Communities. We have a Career Management Field (CMF) 56 Community on ACT where we share all kinds of information pertinent



the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATTRS) – your military training history; and GoArmyEd – your civilian education history. All of this information is compiled into one place so that you can look at a snapshot of your career and then form an Individual Development Plan (IDP) to help you meet your future career goals. Additionally, you can correspond directly with your leaders, mentors, subordinates, and mentees through the Portal. It really is an amazing tool, especially if you are not co-located with the rest of your Brigade but still want to have an active mentorship relationship with your Bri-

gade UMT leaders or subordinates. And the fun of ACT doesn’t end with career tracking and development! The newest addition to the Portal are Communities. We have a Career Management Field (CMF) 56 Community on ACT where we share all kinds of information pertinent to being a member of this great MOS! You can find our Community at <https://actnow.army.mil/communities/community/enlisted-cmf56> or by navigating from the ACT Homepage (click on "Communities" and then use the drop-down boxes to navigate to "ENLISTED" and "CMF56"). We look forward to having you join our Community!



Personnel Proponent  
Office (PPO)  
USACHCS  
10100 Lee Road  
Fort Jackson, SC 29207  
**(803) 751-8375**

Chief Editor: SGM Michael Bair  
[michael.i.bair@mail.mil](mailto:michael.i.bair@mail.mil)

Contact the "The Pulse" editing staff:  
[christina.e.loyd2@mail.mil](mailto:christina.e.loyd2@mail.mil)  
[dustin.m.hall2@mail.mil](mailto:dustin.m.hall2@mail.mil)  
[timothy.f.seppala@mail.mil](mailto:timothy.f.seppala@mail.mil)  
[denise.l.min@mail.mil](mailto:denise.l.min@mail.mil)

**The Pulse**

"The latest news in Religious Affairs"

[Return to Cover](#)