America at War! Home or Abroad?

Just as many of the military veterans of our Foundation, I took an oath to: “Support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic … So help me God.” But this begs the question: Who are these enemies of the Constitution? Are there foreign enemies who would destroy our Constitution? Does Al-Qaeda have the power to seize our civil and constitutional rights? No. Our foreign enemies cannot take our freedoms and civil liberties away from us. Only America’s domestic enemies could pull off such a feat. So many times we focus only on America’s foreign enemies, while forgetting that America also has domestic enemies.

Most of America’s past leaders have understood that America was far too powerful ever to be destroyed by our foreign enemies. If we ever lost our freedoms, it would be because we brought it upon ourselves.

We must understand that America is at war! However, this war is not being fought on some foreign soil, with tanks and planes. It is being fought here at home; it is being fought in our courts; it is being fought in our schools; it is being fought in our churches. I am not referring to a war against terror, but a war for the very soul of America. It is a war of ideology and it is a war for the political, spiritual and moral direction of this nation.

Over our life time there has been a silent war raging in America, between those who believe in the type of America that our founding fathers created and those whose single goal is to destroy it. And the battleground for this war is our society, our schools, our churches and our government.

Religious freedom is but one of the civil rights that our founding fathers sought to ensure and protect by drafting the Bill of Rights. The other freedoms include things such as the freedom of speech, freedom of the press, rights of assembly and petition, the right to bear arms, protection to own private property and the right to a fair trial, among others. You may not consider yourself a staunch supporter of religious freedom, but I am sure that there are some civil rights that you do not want the federal government to infringe upon.

Therefore, every American who loves the freedoms and liberties that our founding fathers fought and died has (as they say) a dog in this fight!

If the federal government is willing to attack our religions freedoms and those who believe in the same Judeo-Christian principles as our founding fathers (which makes up the largest group in America – around 90% by most polls), do you truly think that one of the civil rights such as the right to own property, as guaranteed in the 5th Amendment, is not next? Think again!

On 23 June 2005, in the case of Kelso vs. City of New London, the Supreme Court ruled that the government can now legally seize people’s homes and businesses for private economic development without the consent of the home or business owner. That is what five unelected Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court ruled when they “rewrote” the Constitution and took away our private property rights. Who do you think is going to suffer from this ruling? The rich? Somehow I do not see them going into Beverly Hills and bulldozing down some movie star’s house to put up a shopping mall. It will be you and I … and all other Americans with limited resources to fight these large corporations and development firms in court.

(Continued … on page six)
President’s Corner

A sunny hello to all Foundation members as we start the summer season of travel to the cabin, fishing, picnics, baseball games, mosquitoes, warm weather, storms and the many fun times.

In February, at the Foundation’s Annual Meeting, the new officers and board members were elected for the upcoming year. Guess what? You will have to put up with me for another year as your Foundation president. Once again, I am honored and excited to serve as your president. I accept the challenge and commit to do the very best job I can possibly do. The executive officers, board members and staff are listed to the right of this column. Please consider becoming a volunteer to assist the board with any of the various programs offered at the chapel. A team effort makes all of the jobs easier.

Please note the special events scheduled for May and June. We pray you will plan to participate in these events.

A beautiful commemorative piece will be distributed after worship service on both Mother’s Day (14 May) and Father’s Day (18 June).

Memorial Day Sunday, there will be a very special tribute to the veterans who have gone to be with their Lord. Please plan to join us for the special tribute on 28 May.

A special note: Chaplain Ken will be doing the prayers at the Fort Snelling National Cemetery on Monday 29 May for the Memorial Day Service at 10:00 a.m.

“HEAR YE, HEAR YE” — come one and all to the Annual Chapel Picnic on Sunday 25 June at Veterans Park, Richfield. Once again, we have a great lunch planned and of course fantastic music with the “Pigs Eye Jazz Band.” Please invite your friends and relatives to this fun afternoon. See more information elsewhere in this newsletter about time and cost.

We are making plans for the Foundation’s 40th Anniversary celebration (2007). We will keep you updated as events are planned.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Ice Cream Social to celebrate Independence Day (July 4th). We will celebrate with lots of ice cream, strawberries and cookies on Sunday 2 July following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. We will also be blessed with the toe-tapping music of the Rueben Ristom Trio.

Your Chapel committees wish to "THANK" each one who so graciously signed up to volunteer for one of the many tasks at the Chapel. If at anytime during the year you decide you would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact the committee chairman. It is the volunteers working together that help make our Foundation so successful. "GOD BLESS EACH ONE OF YOU."

— Patricia Swanson
Foundation President
(952) 885-0623
E-mail: 155s@msn.com

Board of Directors

Executive Officers
Patricia Swanson, President
Bob Ozboit, Vice President
Kay Schoen, Secretary
Jim Kirihara, Treasurer

Members at Large
Bob Brautigam
Bob Engwer
Iain Hodge
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Miles Johnson
Bob Peterson
Ted Stamos
Marlene Willock

Advisory Ex-Officio Members
Devon Bangert
Travis Beard
Jerry Kellgren
Barbara Sommerville

Immediate Past President
Betty Lemley

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Worship Committee: Kay Schoen
Finance Committee: Jim Kirihara
Fellowship Committee: Marlene Willock
Publicity Committee: Iain Hodge
Personnel Committee: Ted Nemzek
Benevolence: Pat Hoy

The Board welcomes input from members. If you have an idea or suggestion, please feel welcome to contact the appropriate Board person.

Scheduled 2006 Board Meetings:
Saturdays (9:00 a.m.) ...
25 March, 10 June, 9 September, 18 November ... at the Federal Bldg.
Sunday (1:00 p.m.) ...
17 December ... in the Chapel

If you would like a copy of the 2005 Annual Report, please call the Foundation Office at (612) 970-7866 and leave your name/mailing address that we might send you a copy of this impressive report of last year’s accomplishments.
Special Patriotic/Veterans Events...

Sun., 28 May ’06 — Memorial Day Remembrance — honoring the memory of those armed forces service members who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Sun., 2 July ’06 — Independence Day — celebrating the 230th birthday of our nation ... culminating in an ice cream social.

Sun., 17 Sept ’06 — POW/MIA Remembrance — remembering those who are prisoners of war and those missing in action.

Sun., 12 Nov ’06 — Veterans Day Remembrance — recognizing U.S. veterans of all branches of the armed forces.

Sun., 3 Dec. ’06 — Pearl Harbor Remembrance — recognizing survivors ... with a candle lighting tribute to those who have passed away since last year.

Flag Day
Wednesday 14 June is Flag Day. Be sure to display your U.S. Flag ... and demonstrate your faithful allegiance to this "one nation under God."

6th Annual Chapel Picnic

Following the worship service on Sunday 25 June all are welcome to attend our Sixth Annual Chapel Picnic at the Veterans Memorial Park Picnic Shelter in Richfield (one block south of the Crosstown on Portland Ave). The dress is CASUAL. The catered meal will be served from 1 - 2:00 p.m. Price of tickets: $9.50 for adults, $6.00 for children ages 8 and under. Tickets are on sale in the Fellowship Hall through 11 June. Bring your lawn chair, sit back and relax (2 - 3 p.m.) to the listening music of the Pigs Eye Jazz Band. Invite your friends to the FREE concert.

Annual Ice Cream Social

On Sunday 2 July, we will have our Independence Day Ice Cream Social. Join us for this 4th of July celebration ... following our 11:00 a.m. worship service ... in the Fellowship Hall for ice cream and strawberries and coffee, tea or punch. Our special music for worship and the social will be provided once again by the Reuben Ristrom Jazz Trio.

Hands

"A basketball in my hands is worth about $19.
A basketball in Michael Jordan's hands is worth about $33 million. It depends on whose hands it's in.
A baseball in my hands is worth about $6.
A baseball in Mark McGuire's hands is worth about $19 million. It depends whose hands it's in.
A tennis racket is useless in my hands.
A tennis racket in Venus Williams' hands is championship winning. It depends whose hands it's in.
A rod in my hands will keep away a wild animal.
A rod in Moses' hands will part the mighty sea. It depends whose hands it's in.
A sling shot in my hands is a kid's toy.
A sling shot in David's hands is a mighty weapon. It depends whose hands it's in.
Two fish and five loaves of bread in my hands is a couple of fish sandwiches.
Two fish and five loaves in God's hands will feed thousands. It depends whose hands it's in.
Nails in my hands might produce a bird house.
Nails in Jesus Christ's hands will produce salvation for the entire world. It depends whose hands it's in.
As you can see, now it depends whose hands it's in.
So put your concerns, your worries, your fears, your hopes, your dreams, your families and your relationships in God's hand because ...
It depends on whose hands it's in."

(Provided by Ralph Menning, and written by a girl who is wheelchair bound.)
Getting to Know You …

The following article is a most interesting insight into one of our Foundation members, Robert Engwer. Here Bob, himself a WW2 veteran, shares an interesting story about Tim… his war dog Tattoo #L19.

"In 1942, World War II was at its peak and every person was involved in the effort to achieve victory over the Nazi regime in Europe and the Japanese invaders in the South Pacific. Men and women were enlisting in the armed services, working in arms plants and manufacturing weapons, aircraft, ships and also volunteering in many ways. My brother and I were in the age group that was destined to be called on to serve in the Armed Forces in the near future. My brother enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and served as a sniper in the 2nd Marine Division on Saipan, Tinian, Tarawa and Okinawa. I was inducted into the U.S. Army upon graduating from high school. I volunteered for the airborne and became a paratrooper as a demolitionist with the 127th A/B Engineers, 11th Airborne Division on the Philippine Islands. We were the first occupational troops in Japan after their surrender.

The Army was calling for dogs needed for sentry duty over seas and in the states. My mother and dad did not think they could handle our dog, Tim, while we were in the service because he was very protective of the sorrow horse I had. I worked one summer at a “dude ranch” and purchased this horse and German shepherd puppy when I was 16 years old. It was decided to enlist Tim into the K-9 Corps. On 1 December 1942, Tim became War Dog Tattoo #L19, Quartermaster Corps, U.S. Army. He served on sentry duty until 1946.

We were notified on 22 January 1946 that our dog, Tim, was being returned from active duty. He was to be retrained for civilian life and that preparations should be made for his return. On 8 March 1946, we were notified that because Tim remained so sharp and aggressive that his return would constitute a menace to public safety. In strict accordance with law and Army regulations, Tim was mercifully and without pain, put away.

(Continued … on page five)
(Continued ... from page four)

We received a certificate of Honorable Discharge and a statement that read: He performed his duties like a good soldier. Honorable Discharge #8493.

Q U A R T E R M A S T E R C O R P S

W A R D O G S

K-9 SECTION - - - U.S. ARMY

Honorable Discharge

The War Dog _______ Tattoo No. 119
having served with the Armed Forces of the United States of America, is hereby awarded the Certificate of Faithful Service and Honorable Discharge.

Remarks:

Enlisted: December 1, 1942
Service: Entry Date

Social No. 8493

Letter regarding Tim's performance of duty.

Tim's Honorable Discharge papers.

After I was discharged in 1946, I took advantage of the G.I. Bill and graduated from Macalester College with a degree in economics. My wife Bev and I had two children by the time of graduation in 1951. We have eight children (4 boys & 4 girls), 21 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. We celebrated our 58th wedding anniversary on 29 March 2006. I and our family have always had and loved dogs, and admired their compassion and faithfulness. Tim is one of them ... and truly our HERO.

Photo: Bev and Bob Engwer (2004)

Submitted by: Karen Hodge
Do you still think your freedom and liberties are not at risk? Are you still naive enough to believe that the U.S. government operates with the consent of the American people? No freedom is more fundamental in America than the freedom to own property. In polls released just after this ruling, 91% of Americans disagreed with the Supreme Court’s ruling that allows large corporations and development firms to confiscate our private property for their own private and personal use.

Protecting private property rights was a central reason our founding fathers declared independence in 1776. *World Book Encyclopedia* has this to say about the meaning of the 5th Amendment to the *Constitution*: “The amendment also forbids the government to take a persons property for public use without fair payment. The government’s right to take property for public use is called *eminent domain*. Governments use it to acquire land for highways, schools, and other public facilities.”

It has been a long-established precedent that the government may buy private property to acquire land for highways, schools, and other public facilities. The American people have long understood and accepted this, because highways and schools benefit the general public. Now, some 200+ years after the *Constitution* was established, the Supreme Court has decided that your property may be taken by anyone with more money than you in order to build a casino or a shopping mall. *Eminent domain* used to mean that the government could take your property for public use; now it can take your property and give it to anyone who simply wants to make money off your land; thus destroying the 5th Amendment.

The American people must realize that most of our elected representatives are so engulfed in partisan politics that they are unwilling or unable to take our government back from judicial tyranny. (read Deuteronomy 16:18-19) The politicians in Washington have known about these unconstitutional seizures of power for over 60 years. But instead of defending the American people against these abusers of power, they sit on the fence ... afraid to take a stand for anything that may cost them votes in the next election. Meanwhile, the American people suffer from their inaction and lack of courage. Our founding fathers realized that you can only appeal to tyrants for so long before you are forced to take matters into your own hands.

The *Declaration of Independence* says, “Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.” Our founding fathers believed that government has to receive consent from the governed. If we do not wake up soon and realize that the U.S. government has not received any consent from the American people to burn the American flag, take the words “under God” out of the *Pledge of Allegiance* or illegally confiscate our property, you can pretty much kiss the America that our founding fathers established goodbye.

In Nazi Germany, the people stood around while Hitler exterminated millions of Jews. Why did they not say or do anything? Because they didn’t have a dog in the fight! After all, their government was not actively persecuting them and as a result of not standing up for what was right, their country was destroyed.

Mankind has historically shown that we are self-centered. If there is an injustice taking place that does not directly affect us or those we care about, we will often not allow ourselves to be too concerned with it. However, those who seek to oppress those around us will eventually begin to oppress us, given the chance. We must not allow this to happen any longer.

It is my hope and prayer that you will join me in being bold and courageous enough to stand up for the truth and no longer sit on the sidelines, complaining about everything going on around us. As American citizens, we have the constitutional power to fix the problems we are experiencing; and as Christians, we have the truth of God’s Word — but the time is growing short, my friends.

We may feel, and rightly so, that we ourselves are not part of the problem. But the question is, are we going to be part of the solution? British statesman Edmund Burke (1729-1797) once said, “All that is necessary for evil to triumph is that good men do nothing ... ” If the America that we know and love is going to survive, the good can no longer sit idle. It is time to take control! It is time to let our collective voices be heard! It is time to fight the next American Revolution.

Serving God and Country,
Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr., Chaplain
(612) 747-1059 or E-mail: kenneth.beale@us.army.mil
Benevolent Giving ...

Our Foundation recently received a thank you letter from Pastor Don Rudrud of the Community Emergency Service. He writes: "The Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation is a supporting partner of the Community Emergency Service (CES) of Minneapolis. For this we give you thanks and praise God for His many gifts. I am writing you to report on how your gifts are used to provide help.

A family man, named Bill, came to CES for food. Bill lost his spray painting job when his company was downsized. While Bill was at CES for food, his interviewer referred him to our Work With Dignity program that helps connect people with jobs. Since our staff knew of a corporation with an opening, Bill was sent there to apply. They looked at his resume and gasped with delight! Even though he had gone there to apply for a forklift job, they noticed he was a spray painter as well. A spray painting job had just opened up and for even better pay. Bill went from asking for groceries to full time employment at over $14 per hour with full benefits.

We want to continue to be an extension of your ministry among the people of the city. Remember you are encouraged to refer people to us who are in crisis need or who want help in this Christian caring mission. The numbers of people seeking assistance in food, transportation or employment has increased significantly in the past year. 'You are always welcome to visit us at CES ... May God richly bless the ministry of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel.'"

The Board of Directors of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation approved a $500 gift for CES located at 1900 11th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404 (612/870-1125). This is one of the many worthy organization's that the FSMCF reaches out to with our tithes and our prayers.

God Bless You.

— Patrick Hoy
Chair Benevolence Committee

This congregation tithes (10 %) from its plate offerings. If you know of an organization/ministry ... that is in keeping with our purpose ... please feel free to secure an application to submit for financial support in 2006. Simply call the Foundation Office at 612/870-7866 ... and provide a name and mailing address.

Some ask — "Where is Chaplain Ken these days?"

... as he has been traveling a lot for his full time job of recruiting chaplains for the U.S. Army. This travel must be effective ... as Chaplain Ken reports the goals have been exceeded for the first half of the year. Congratulations Chaplain Ken ... and your team of recruiters! On Sunday 2 July 2006, Chaplain Ken will celebrate his sixth anniversary with us as the Foundation Chaplain. "Happy Anniversary, Chaplain Ken" ... and we hope to have you for many more years to come. May God bless you richly, Chaplain Ken.

THE CHAPLAIN
He wears a khaki uniform, the same as all the boys.
He eats and sleeps and lives with them, through troubles and through joys.
He shares their trenches and their tents and everything they do,
including all the dangers of the battles they go through.
He brings a smile to lonely eyes that gaze across the sea,
by painting pictures of the peace to follow victory.
He heals the wounds of hearts and souls wherever soldiers fight.
He is their Guardian Angel in the hour of their flight.
He moves among the fallen men where darkness draws despair,
and lights the lamp of faith in God to guide their lips in prayer. — by James Metcalf

Submitted by : Patricia Swanson
Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation
This is a non-denominational Christian church founded in 1967. We invite you to join us for worship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at this historic Chapel.

The Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel is a unique Minnesota memorial — a splendid monument to the patriotism, the moral earnestness and the convictions of the people of this state — a shrine to commemorate those who have died for their country. Weekly Sunday worship is sponsored by the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation and is not subsidized by the state.

For Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation information call the Foundation Office at (612) 970-7866, or write to the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation 1 Federal Drive Fort Snelling, MN 55111–4027 or e-mail to info@fortsnellingmcf.org or check our web site at www.fortsnellingmcf.org

Ft. Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation Staff
Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr., Chaplain
Ruth Fardig, Minister of Music
Leila Campbell, Administrative Assistant

The Snelling Spirit Staff:
The Snelling Spirit is a bimonthly publication of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation. We welcome your input, your letters and your suggestions.

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**May 2006**

I Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minneapolis 55111-4027

Foundation Memorial Chapel

Memorial Foundation

Memorial Day

Last Sunday of Easter

Easter Sunday

Easter

Easter Sunday

Easter
## Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation Staff

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### 2006

**June**

1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minneapolis 55411

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For more information, contact:

- **Phone:** 612/970-7467
- **Fax:** 612/970-7867

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**Email:** foundation@memorialchapel.org

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**Location:** Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel

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**Contact Information**

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