



Chaplain of the Year Awarded to Patrick H. Johnson, Sr.

Rev. Peter R. Hook, State Chaplain



At the Council of Administration meeting held in January 2011, approval was given to present a Chaplain of the Year Award. The award is given annually at the Department Convention. It recognizes a District or Post Chaplain who demonstrates a commitment to the ministry and duties of a Chaplain, and who exhibits exemplary performance above and beyond normal expectations.

The recipient of the Chaplain of the Year Award for 2016 is Mr. Patrick H. Johnson, Sr. Patrick serves as Chaplain of All-American VFW Post 7043 in Coalport, PA.

Patrick was nominated for the award by District 22 Commander, George P. Fletcher and his post commander, William Hewitt. Commander Fletcher stated that he has been a member of Coalport Post 7043 for over fifty years, and in all that time, Patrick is the best and most efficient Post Chaplain he has ever had the privilege of knowing. He performs his duties in a professional and orderly manner. Patrick has a caring and giving heart and is very dedicated to his duties as a Chaplain. Monthly, he sends Thinking of You, Get Well, and Sympathy cards to members and their families. He gets out and personally visits elderly veterans, and the sick and recuperating veterans who are unable to get out. He has attended and performed funeral and memorial services for departed Post Comrades and family members of comrades.

Patrick visits the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home on a regular basis and each month he visits Tomorrow's Hope for Homeless Veterans. Often he is there multiple times each month. He takes the veterans at Tomorrow's Hope to appointments and

organizes special events for the homeless vets. In addition to his duties as Post Chaplain, Patrick is a member of the Post Color Guard. He also helps at the evening bingo at the James Van Zant Hospital in Altoona.

Patrick is a Desert Storm veteran who served in the Navy on board the USS Proteus (AS 19), which is a Fulton-class submarine tender, from 1988-1991. He has been married to his wife Betty for 17 years, and they have 3 children and 2 grandchildren.

It was truly an honor for me to present this award to Patrick, a true servant and model for those of us who are called to serve those who served. The Chaplain of the Year receives a framed certificate and a VFW watch. He also gains possession of a framed picture to be displayed at his Post for the coming year.

On the Department Website <http://www.vfwpahq.org> you will find my Chaplain's Page which has information concerning the award, the Monthly Chaplain's Report, and various resources to help comrades.

Blessings as you serve.

Rev. Peter R. Hook
PA State Chaplain
Veterans of Foreign Wars
534 Parkvale Ave.
Langhorne, PA 19047
267-229-7722
Fax 215-750-1511
PeterHook@verizon.net

