



Impact Georgia

December 2014 Newsletter

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Have a great story Idea?

Send to

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Chaplain Susan Bishop named Emory/Candler Centennial Medalist for extraordinary service

Story courtesy of Candler Connection Magazine
Photo courtesy of the AJC

Like any good story, Candler's history is best told through the actions of its heroes and heroines. Dean Jan Love and the Centennial Committee have selected 56 such men and women to honor for their extraordinary service to the school, the church, and society over the past century. These 56 individuals—administrators, faculty, alumni, and supporters, including some

who are no longer with us—are each receiving a Centennial Medal for demonstrating one or more of the core values by which Candler seeks to define itself: the highest standards of intellectual inquiry, devotion to the Christian tradition, passion for social justice, an egalitarian spirit, and a commitment to practices of transformation. Their outstanding contributions to transforming the world in the name of Christ are Candler's legacy of these first 100 years.

You may not expect to hear a 'joyful noise' inside a prison—unless it's Lee Arrendale Women's Prison in northeast Georgia, where Susan Bishop is chaplain. "Chap," as the inmates call her, began working in prison ministry in 1984 and quickly found that leading choirs of inmates was a perfect outlet for her dual musical-ministerial calling.

"The prison is a great context for combining music, theology, counseling, and worship," Bishop says. "You don't ordinarily think of music education in a correctional setting, (See BISHOP pg 2)



Chaplain Susan Bishop directs the Voices of Hope Choir at Lee Arrendale State Prison and was selected as one of the 56 Centennial Medalists for extraordinary contributions to society by the Emory/Candler School of Theology.

Around the Perimeter with Chaplain Steven Turner

On Aug. 1, Dr. Steven Turner was appointed as Director of Chaplaincy Services. As Director, Turner will be responsible for the oversight of the facilitation of pastoral care for inmates and staff. Let's take a trip around the perimeter with our newest leader in Central Office. **Q: Educational background:** Bachelors degree from the University of North Carolina, Masters degree from South- (See PERIMETER Pg. 3)



Steven Turner is the director of Chaplaincy Services and oversees pastoral care for inmates and staff.



Calendar Events

Thursday, December 4

Board of Corrections Meeting &

Clayton DRC Commencement Ceremony & Deputy Wardens of Care and Treatment Academy Graduation

Tuesday, December 9

Gainesville DRC Commencement Ceremony

Thursday, December 11

Holiday Breakfast at SOSTC

Tuesday, December 16

Columbus DRC Commencement Ceremony

Wednesday, December 17

Governor's Public Safety Award Ceremony

Thursday, December 25

HOLIDAY
Christmas

Friday, December 26

HOLIDAY

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve

Happy Holidays!



From the Commissioner...

As we approach the Holidays, we are reminded of our many blessings - family and friends, health, happiness and the countless opportunities we enjoy as Americans. Every employee of the Georgia Department of Corrections sacrifices daily to make Georgia safer and we are especially grateful for all who choose to serve as part of the GDC family. We are grateful for your perseverance and strength as we continue leading the way in criminal justice reform. With your help, the Department is on the path toward an even brighter future - one that includes greater opportunities and serves as a beacon to corrections agencies throughout the nation. As we celebrate this time with friends and family, let us remember members of our Armed Forces and their families in our prayers and give thanks for the sacrifices they are making in the name of democracy. We wish you all a happy and safe Holiday Season.

Brian Quirk

(BISHOP from Pg. 1)

but it encourages the inmates to grow spiritually as well as musically.”

Bishop’s ensembles have performed at churches, schools, and denominational gatherings. An ordained Southern Baptist minister, Bishop works with her staff—who include an African Methodist Episcopal chaplain, an Islamic chaplain, and a Catholic nun—to provide counseling and worship programs at the prison. More importantly, they offer a setting where inmates can communicate, work out problems, and confront each other in a spirit of respect.

Bishop worked with Candler professor Liz Bounds to create the Certificate in Theological Studies for women prisoners, a transformative program of theological education sponsored by the Atlanta Theological Association.



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THE CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

(**PERIMETER** from Pg. 1) western Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Doctorate from the Southern Baptist Center for Biblical Studies.

Q: Previous positions? Civilian pastor for 15 years; Army Chaplain for 24 years (retired in April of this year)

Q: Why did you want to pursue a career in a correctional setting?

I was looking to continue in chaplain ministry and was recommended to this position. In a big way it mirrors what I did as an Army chaplain.

Q: What do you find most rewarding about working in Corrections? Working with the great chaplains in our facilities.

Q: Proudest accomplishment? Being awarded the Legion of

Merit Medal upon retirement from the United States Army.

Q: What are some of your goals as the Director or Chaplaincy? To expand the number of chaplains we employ, to strengthen our Volunteer Enlistment and Training efforts, to find ways to continue and further the great Faith and Character based programs we currently utilize.

Q: What are some of the major challenges facing our Department, and or chaplaincy programming? Funding for chaplains, training for chaplains, and adequate chaplain coverage for all our facilities.

Q: What do you look forward to most working in this new role? Traveling to each facility and partnering with wardens and chaplains in their efforts.

Q: What is your favorite quote? "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care," by Theodore Roosevelt.

Q: Do you have any hobbies? After playing the game for 50 years, I am still trying to conquer golf. I also work out 3-4 times a week.

Q: What is your favorite movie? Old westerns – Shane, The Searchers, The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance and a newer western – Tombstone. I was stationed at Fort Huachuca in Arizona only about 30 miles from Tombstone, so I was able to visit and tour the city. Great experience.

Q: What music/artists are on your iPod? I don't own an iPod but in my automobile CD player mostly I have old Motown

(Temptations, Supremes, the Four Tops), DooWop and Rock and Roll from the early sixties (Did I just reveal my age?)

Q: What was the first concert you attended? The Four Seasons

Q: What was the first record you owned? An old 45 with songs by Captain Kangaroo

Q: What's your favorite website? I have two; ESPN.com and the Golf Channel AM Tour

Q: What's your favorite book? The Bible

Q: If you could be a fictional character, which one would it be and why? James Bond or Batman (I love the cars).

Q: Do you have a celebrity look-a-like? My daughters say that I resemble Ed Harris.

Celebrating... Southern Style



Content contributed by CPO William C. Hall

On Nov. 4, following the Southwestern Circuit meeting, the Americus Probation Office was treated to and all-expenses paid "good ole fashion South Georgia fish fry." The vent was made possible through the generosity of Officer Chad Norton's father-in-law, Mr. Rodney Odom. Mr. Odom chose to host this fish

fry in appreciation for what the staff at Americus Probation Office does for the community on a daily basis.

The event was attended by all the office staff, who added to the feast with homemade desserts and other goodies. Members of the Americus Parole Office and Inmate Construction Services were also in attendance.

Columbus DRC hosts health Fair

Content contributed by Josephine Ford

On Nov. 7, the Columbus Day Reporting Center held its first Health Fair. The vendors provided information on prevention and detection opportunities as well as resources for living a healthy lifestyle to the attendees. The event served as a one-stop shop for information and included free health screenings, HIV testing, information on health issues, massage therapy, nutrition and exercise.



Around the Agency...

November was bittersweet as we celebrated the retirement of several long-time employees - members of our GDC family. Employees gathered together to remember the careers and cherish the friendships of those retiring. Congratulations to the retirees! Know that you will be missed and each of you will hold a special place in the hearts of those whose lives you touched throughout your careers.



Francine Scott - 30 Years



Carl Humphrey - 30 Years



Joe English - 30 Years



Freddy Pulliam - 30 Years

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MISSION

The Department of Corrections creates a safer Georgia by effectively managing offenders and providing opportunities for positive change.

VISION

To be recognized as the best corrections organization in the nation.



BRIAN OWENS
Commissioner

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