

The Fall 2007 entry page for Project White Horse depicted the technology, events and people of the 20th century, contrasted with people and crisis events of the emerging 21<sup>st</sup> century, all overlaid with the comment “*how you think about the future determines what you do in the future.*”

To date, Project White Horse 084640 has highlight key and sometimes overlapping elements, offering that when taken together, they form the beginning of a minimum knowledge set necessary for adaptable response in a tumultuous new century. Some of those elements addressed have been: John Boyd’s pre-eminently functional cognitive tool, *OODA Loop* and parallel effort on analysis and synthesis; Dr. Gary Klein’s *Recognition Primed Decision Making*; vulnerability analysis in regard to schools including analysis of critical crisis events; and introduction of *Fourth Generation Warfare* as a lens for viewing not only the war on terrorism, but all aspects of crisis response.

Flowing from this baseline and given the focus on decision making in extreme crises, throughout 2008, Project White Horse 084640 will explore thinking about the future in context of the idea of a *resilient community*, whether that “community” be a university, a city, a state, or a nation.

**Working Premise:** In order to become resilient communities, every single person in America - parents, teachers, students, police and government officials – as individual citizens and as organization members, must become our own best resource, ready to act in our own survival process, capable of effective support to First Responders, with decreased need for assistance, allowing that first response to be focused on most critical elements. As we increase our ability to respond to disasters - natural or man-made - psychologically, physically, tactically, and mentally, we directly and positively affect the crisis decision making process. We as knowledgeable adaptable citizens – *we the people* – become a significant participant in our survival as a nation on our own terms.

I submit that acquiring and using that skill in creation of a resilient community is first dependent upon 1) attitude- in this case incorporating the will to prepare- and equally important, 2) knowledge in areas not common or necessary in the previous century.

Further editions of the website will address first, the idea of *resilient communities* from the perspective of multiple key elements such as school security, civil military response, and ideas of building personal resiliency, among others. The second edition will discuss *leadership* problems and requirements. Next will be examination focused on regaining our footing as quickly as possible after disaster strikes - how do we “re- orient” and regain control or “*relative superiority*?” The final edition for 2008 will then provide thoughts on the *tools and processes* for building, becoming, and being resilient communities.

Throughout the year the “**Forum**” will be used to provide comments and links to key writers and sites between editions. In that light, in preparation for the beginning edition on **Resilient Communities**, I invite you to read the several articles that are now available on the Forum, intended to bridge the 4GW “window” discussions with the 2008 operational thread of building resilient communities.

Your comments are desired.