

FLYING

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WHEEL

October - December 2008

2008: Safest Ohio roadways on record predicted as Patrol marks 75 years of service.

Metro initiatives, increased OVI arrests credited as contributing factors.



OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL





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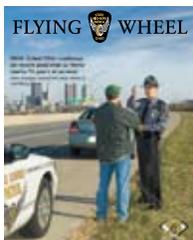


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It is one thing to believe something, but more important to live what we believe

On the Cover



Through our metro initiatives, the Division has directly contributed to what appears to be the safest year on Ohio roads in recorded history.

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Governor, State of Ohio

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Director, Department of Public Safety

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The "Flying Wheel" is published by the Office of Strategic Services in the interest of the entire Highway Patrol family.

In writing this letter to you, I am so proud that directly due to your efforts, we are ending the year on the verge of history. From the challenging blizzards and floods in 2008, to the adaptability shown in managing the numerous high-profile security operations centered on the U.S. Presidential campaign season this year, you have remained focused on the mission and not lost sight of our goal. Even with the countless distractions that came our way during the year that taxed our resources, sometimes tried our patience and challenged our resolve, you never wavered from your commitment to the safety of motorists on Ohio roads.

And now, we appear poised to end 2008 with the lowest number of Ohio traffic fatalities in the state's recorded history. You have made a difference where it matters the most – in improving the quality of life for the citizens of this state. Because of you, Ohio roads are safer, Ohio's metropolitan areas are safer than they have ever been and impaired drivers know they are in the enforcement cross-hairs of Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers.

As we turn the page to look toward 2009 and beyond, it is time to again examine our operational priorities so we are best prepared for the future. We are going to continue to forge our identity in Ohio's largest metro areas to make the most significant impact where our population centers are the greatest.

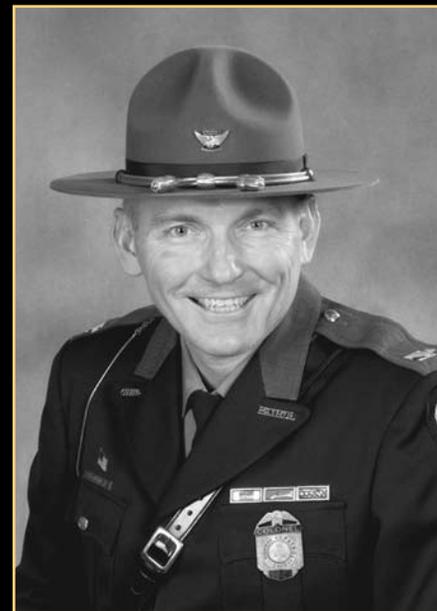
Certainly a key to our success will be how we communicate with each other and with the public we serve and protect. I have been extremely pleased with the response from across the state to our Crucial Conversations training. I am confident the issues of the past can be alleviated in the future due to our renewed commitment to speaking openly and confidently about issues before they elevate to a level that can do damage to careers and to our Division.

Plans are underway to develop a new five-year blueprint for the future of our organization. Planning for our future endeavors will include a broad cross section of Divisional input and participation not seen in the Patrol for 20 years. We will rely on our present and past, including the valued input from retired Colonel Thomas Rice as we embark on a major strategic planning movement within our agency.

2009 will bring with it new opportunities for us to show our value as the premier traffic safety organization in the country. Each of you will be integral to our success as we continue to make a difference 24/7.



Colonel Richard H. Collins
Superintendent



*You have made a difference
where it matters the most – in
improving the quality of life for
the citizens of this state.*

2008

Safest Ohio roadways on record as Patrol marks 75 years of service!

Metro initiatives, increased OVI arrests credited as contributing factors

While a complete analysis of the success and impact of the Ohio State Highway Patrol's 2008 metro initiatives will not be available until early next year, Colonel Richard Collins has predicted that in this, its 75th Anniversary year, the Division has directly contributed to what appears to be the safest year on Ohio roads in recorded history.

For several months the provisional state fatality numbers have been running at more than 100 fewer than the same time period for last year.

In making this historic prediction, Collins cited the impact of operationally sound metro initiatives and the increase in OVI arrests as contributing factors in the record-setting achievement.

In Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, and Toledo – those areas where Ohio's population centers are the greatest – the Patrol saw the greatest impact in saved lives. Patrol management attributes the significant urban fatality reduction, in part, to the metro enforcement initiatives conducted in 2008.

Working side-by-side with local police officers and sheriff's deputies in Ohio's metropolitan areas, and with the support of city leaders, significant reductions in traffic fatalities were realized.

Provisional data through mid-November indicated a fatality reduction of more than 60 lives saved in urban areas compared to the same time period last year. Traffic crash deaths outside metro areas also declined as troopers maintained previously successful efforts. Overall, traffic deaths are declining nationally approximately nine percent. At the same time, Ohio's death rate has run close to a 20 percent decline.

Collins acknowledged higher fuel prices and fewer miles being driven also contributed the overall fatality reduction. However, because certain areas of the state experienced traffic crash death increases, Collins noted fuel prices alone should not be solely credited.

Armed with public opinion results from an ongoing public opinion survey project at Ohio's driver examination stations, troopers directly addressed the most significant traffic safety concerns listed by Ohio motorists.

During the past two years in a survey that has sought traffic safety opinions from approximately 14,000 Ohio citizens, 93 percent of respondents ranked drunk- or drug-impaired driving as a very important concern and 85 percent of respondents viewed reckless or aggressive drivers as a very important concern.



State troopers responded to the call-to-action and through the end of October had made 21,439 OVI arrests, which were 808 more OVI arrests than at the same time in 2007. Collins noted there is little doubt the increase in OVI arrests directly contributed to the 22 percent reduction in OVI-related fatal crashes recorded in Ohio as compared with October of last year.

While Ohio roads were getting safer, state troopers were also directly impacting the safety of Ohio communities and neighborhoods. Coupled with the traffic safety successes, the Patrol's 24/7 Initiative, which maximizes technology and significantly reduced case-related paperwork for road officers, yielded impressive results related to interrupting the criminal element on Ohio roads.

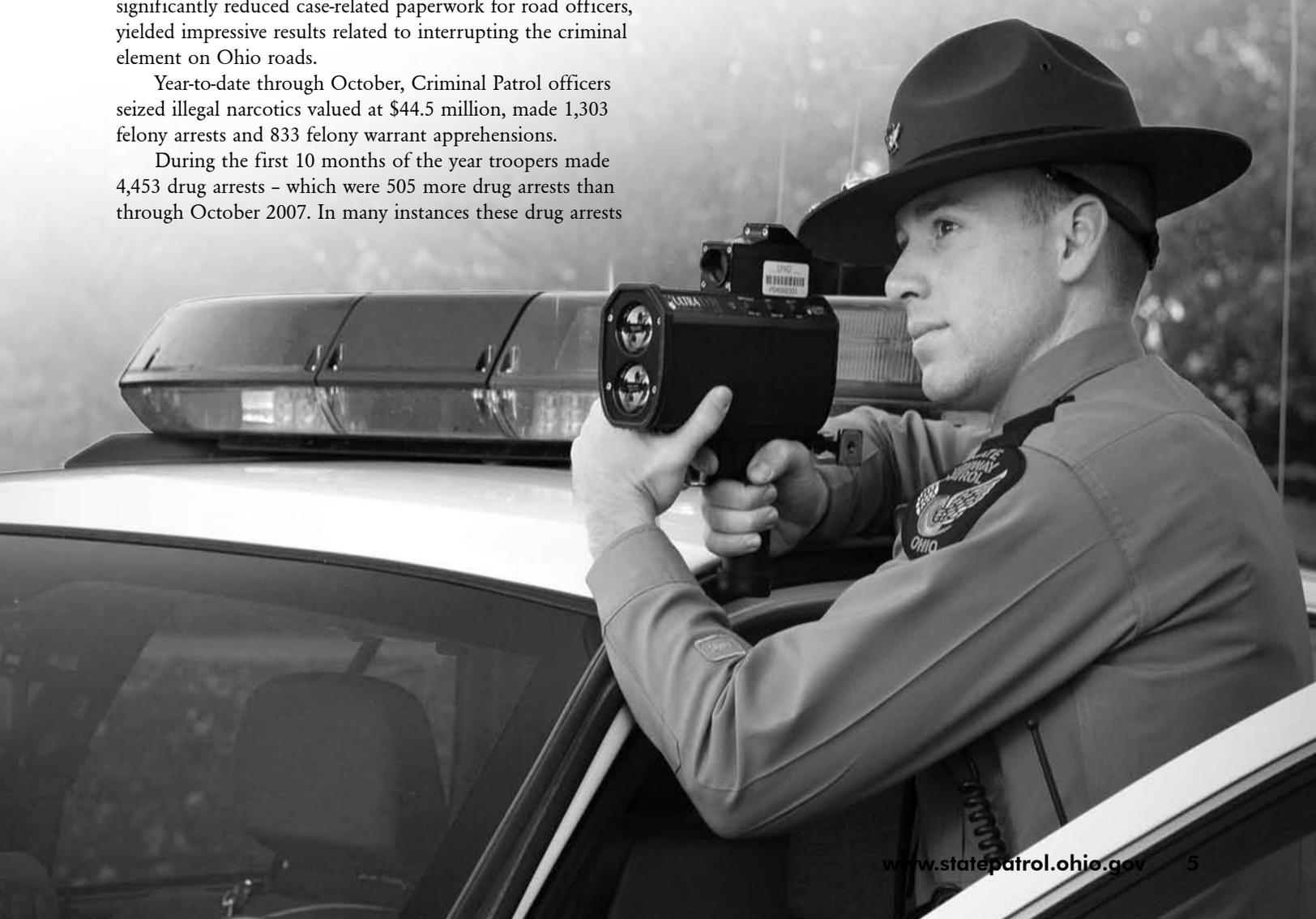
Year-to-date through October, Criminal Patrol officers seized illegal narcotics valued at \$44.5 million, made 1,303 felony arrests and 833 felony warrant apprehensions.

During the first 10 months of the year troopers made 4,453 drug arrests - which were 505 more drug arrests than through October 2007. In many instances these drug arrests

led local drug task forces to apprehensions in larger drug and other criminal cases.

Troopers also made 205 arrests for illegal weapons, which was a 15 percent increase for illegal weapons arrests than through last October. And finally, state troopers recovered 454 stolen vehicles through October of this year.

Final statistics will be available during the opening months of 2009 but all signs point to this year being among the most successful in the 75-year history of the Ohio State Highway Patrol and illustrative of the many ways in which the Division creates public value everyday.



OVI Enforcement

Patrol, Cincinnati police share national honor from MADD

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recognized its brightest stars on September 6 for their selfless contributions and inspiring work over the past year with an awards ceremony during the President’s Dinner, the closing event of the 2008 MADD National Conference in Dallas, Texas.

For the first time, MADD selected a law enforcement partnership with national honors. The Cincinnati Police Department and the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s Wilmington District were selected as agency winners for the Outstanding Law Enforcement Award. These two departments combined efforts to conduct enforcement blitzes in high-crash locations during peak travel periods in 2007.

The 11-week enforcement effort decreased the number of collisions by more than 60 percent from 2006. The outstanding enforcement effort contributed to the state having the lowest number of traffic fatalities in 70 years.

“Many of these stellar individuals and teams have helped further the Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving and their contributions are amazing,” said MADD National President Laura Dean-Mooney of all the awardees. “MADD’s volunteers, staff and partners in the safety community are keys to ensuring the roads are safer, lives are saved, and injuries prevented.”



Colonel Thomas Streicher, chief of the Cincinnati Police Department; MADD National President Laura Dean-Mooney; Colonel Richard Collins, superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

“Tie One on for Safety” promotes safe and sober holiday season

The Patrol, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Ohio Department of Public Safety and other safety advocates launched the annual “Tie One on for Safety” campaign on November 20 with a message to drive safe, sober and buckled up.

This was the 22nd year for the holiday ribbon campaign which encourages motorists to tie the MADD ribbon to their vehicles as a pledge to be safe on the roadways.

In 2007, 473 Ohioans were killed in alcohol-related crashes. Of those crashes, 37 of the fatalities occurred between Thanksgiving and New Years. Of those killed in alcohol-related crashes in 2007, 482 were not wearing safety belts.

The Patrol and local law



Bob Kent, whose son and two friends were killed by a drunk driver on Christmas Day 2004, and Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Henry Guzmán tie MADD ribbons on a Patrol cruiser as Lt. Colonel William Costas, assistant superintendent, looks on.

more than 13,000 hours of enforcement over the holiday season including 18

sobriety checkpoints and more than 3,000 hours of saturation patrols.

Patrol, Bengals hope “Fans don’t let fans drive drunk”

“Fans don’t let fans drive drunk,” was the message from the Cincinnati Bengals, Ohio State Highway Patrol’s Batavia Post and Cincinnati Police Department in an OVI awareness message over the NFL season.

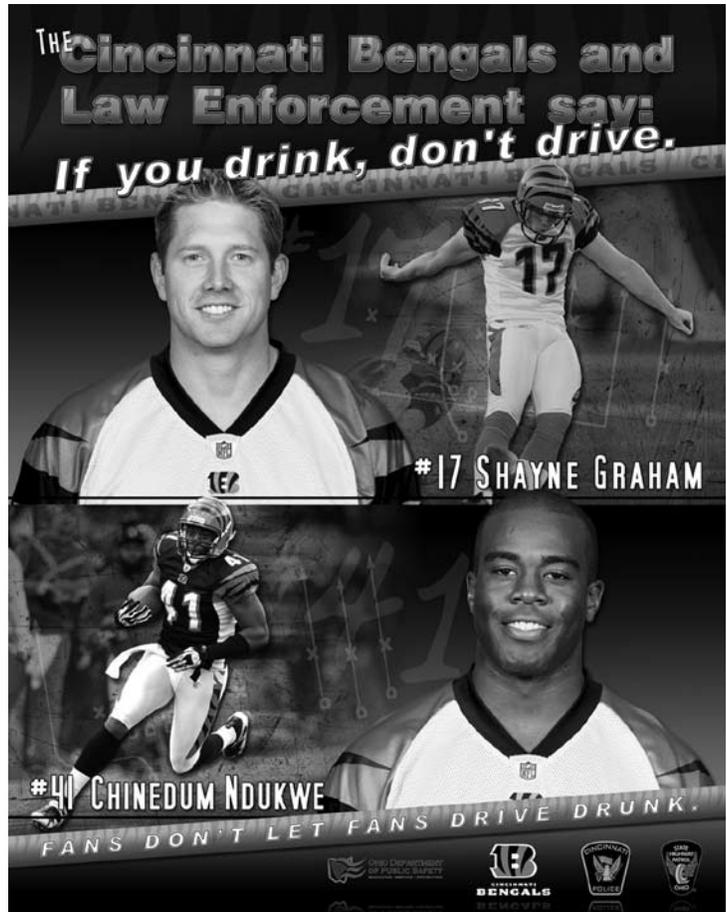
Bengals players Shayne Graham and Chinedum Ndukwe appeared in a commercial about the dangers of impaired driving that aired during weekly broadcasts of Bengals Weekly, as well as on internal monitors and scoreboards at Paul Brown Stadium during Bengals home games. There were also associated Web site messages supporting the effort.

Lt. Randy McElfresh, commander of the Batavia Post, was responsible for developing the partnership.

In addition to the public awareness announcements, the Patrol, Cincinnati Police Department and the Kentucky State Police worked together to deter and intercept impaired drivers during the Cincinnati Bengals’ home games this year.

Officials focused their efforts in and around Cincinnati and northern Kentucky. Officers were on saturation patrols on interstates and in the metro areas near Paul Brown Stadium each home game day during the season.

Cincinnati Bengals players Chinedum Ndukwe #41, and Shayne Graham #17 partnered with the Batavia Post for an OVI awareness effort this NFL season.



Community helps unveil new West Jefferson Post at open house

Madison County citizens were treated to a behind the scenes look at the Patrol’s new post facility in West Jefferson at an open house on November 6.

The event was the culmination of a construction project that began more than a year ago.

Among the new building’s features are the post commander’s office, duty room, and evidence room, as well as larger and more secure radio dispatch and lobby areas. The post also houses a community room. Entrances and rest rooms are handicapped-accessible.

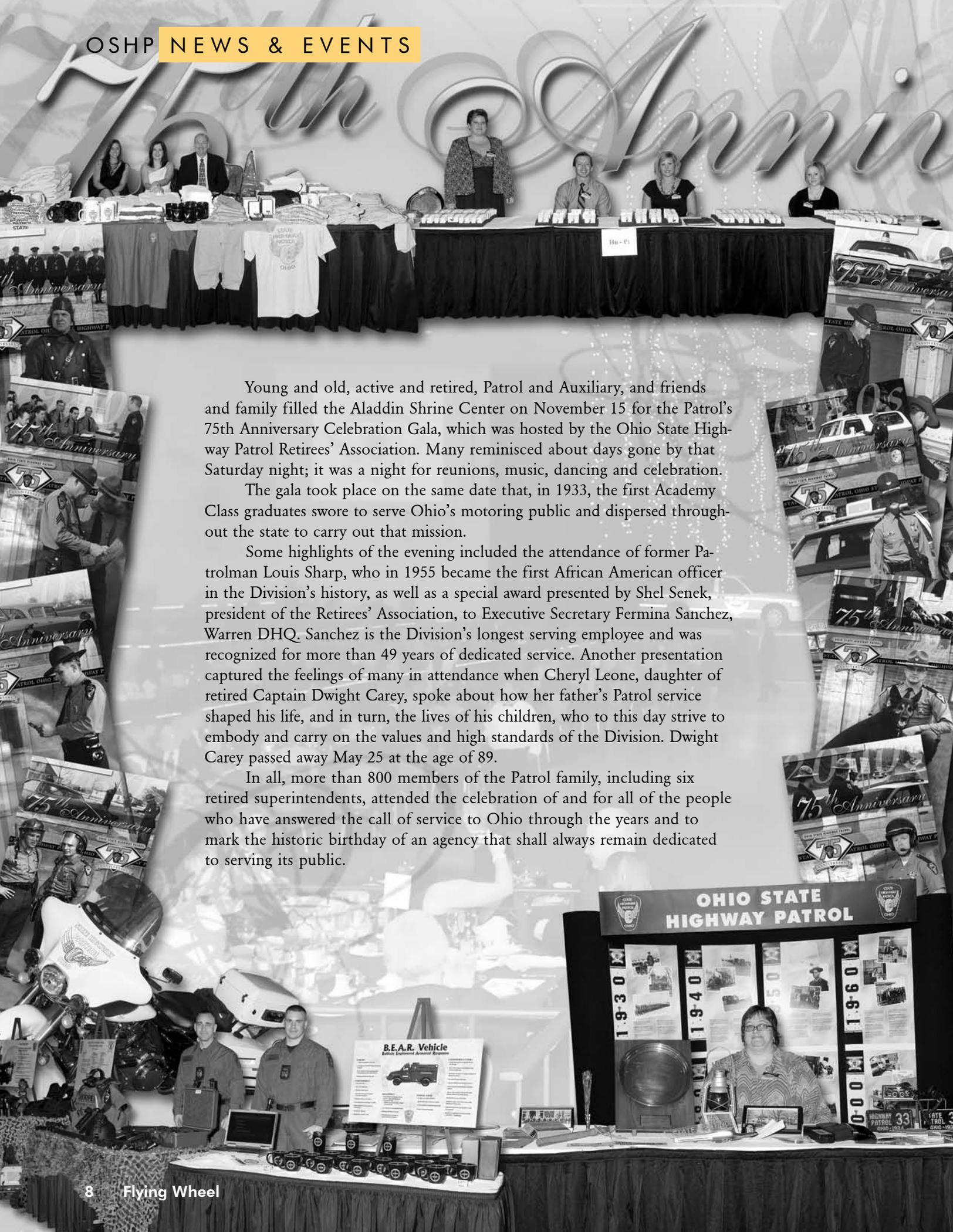
Our first Madison County post opened in 1955 at a private residence in London. Prior to that time, Madison County was patrolled by officers from posts in Columbus and Springfield. The post moved to its current site in West Jefferson in 1974.



Madison County citizens were invited to tour the new West Jefferson Post at an open house on November 6.

Right: Rep. Chris Widenner, Lt. Ken Ward, Colonel Richard Collins, Director Henry Guzmán, and Capt. Art Combest unveil the new post.





Young and old, active and retired, Patrol and Auxiliary, and friends and family filled the Aladdin Shrine Center on November 15 for the Patrol's 75th Anniversary Celebration Gala, which was hosted by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association. Many reminisced about days gone by that Saturday night; it was a night for reunions, music, dancing and celebration.

The gala took place on the same date that, in 1933, the first Academy Class graduates swore to serve Ohio's motoring public and dispersed throughout the state to carry out that mission.

Some highlights of the evening included the attendance of former Patrolman Louis Sharp, who in 1955 became the first African American officer in the Division's history, as well as a special award presented by Shel Senek, president of the Retirees' Association, to Executive Secretary Fermina Sanchez, Warren DHQ. Sanchez is the Division's longest serving employee and was recognized for more than 49 years of dedicated service. Another presentation captured the feelings of many in attendance when Cheryl Leone, daughter of retired Captain Dwight Carey, spoke about how her father's Patrol service shaped his life, and in turn, the lives of his children, who to this day strive to embody and carry on the values and high standards of the Division. Dwight Carey passed away May 25 at the age of 89.

In all, more than 800 members of the Patrol family, including six retired superintendents, attended the celebration of and for all of the people who have answered the call of service to Ohio through the years and to mark the historic birthday of an agency that shall always remain dedicated to serving its public.



Gala





Troopers praised for kind deeds, kind words

My family and I went to the Ohio State Fair this summer, and we enjoyed it greatly. We noticed that the fairgrounds were very well patrolled by State Patrol officers and they were all so nice to talk with.

My husband and I have worked in the past with the State Patrol, monitoring the CB radios with the React Teams in Clermont County.

While at the State Fair I had the opportunity to talk with an officer out of Hamilton County. She was very pleasant and helped anyone that came along. Many officers walked through the 4H Dog Show that my granddaughter was in, and they seemed to enjoy their jobs greatly.

My 8-year-old granddaughter developed an ear ache while we were there, not long before we planned to

leave the fair for the last time, and started to run a fever. I did not know where to find the First Aid Station. I saw three officers close by, and I asked them for assistance to help me find the First Aid Station. The three of them said they would help me out, and stayed with my granddaughter while I went to tell my family where I would be, then escorted us to the First Aid Station.

That same morning, a lady came running up to us and asked if we knew who a baby belonged to that seemed to be lost. I said no, and many others were telling her the same thing. A trooper was keeping the little girl calm by talking to her. I thought it was so touching to see this, I told my daughter I had to take these pictures. When he picked her up to take her to a place to find her family, I took the second picture.

The photos of this officer and the lost baby have impressed many people that I have shown them to, and it was suggested that I share them with you.

You don't see acts of kindness like this often in today's world, but it's very nice to know that you, as police officers, are doing your jobs and still finding time to show kindness to a child in need, and others too.

Keep up the good work and thank you to all the troopers at the State Fair for making it memorable for my family. My husband and children know what police officers represent to our family, but it made a difference on our grandchildren. They got to see what we already knew. Thank You.

**Judy and Lloyd Wells
Amelia, Ohio**



While on duty at the Ohio State Fair, Tpr. Aaron McMillan, Batavia, helped this lost child find her parents.

You have a very valuable asset serving you in the form, shape and name of Tpr. John McGlashan (Sandusky). I cannot tell you in enough words how very friendly and kind he was when he stopped me for speeding on State Route 250 on September 30.

He found out I was traveling to my daughter's home in Cleveland for my birthday celebration and he went right to the task. I was back on the road shortly with the utmost impression left

upon me by Tpr. McGlashan.

I am a criminal defense attorney in Seneca County and have been for 37 years. I have had many, many cross-examinations with Highway Patrol troopers; it takes a lot for me to be impressed with a police officer's behavior. I am telling you now, this trooper knows how to deal positively with people and he is one I would prefer to have on my side.

Soon I think the Highway Patrol

should make him a sergeant and within a reasonable time thereafter, elevate him to lieutenant. But, the only problem with that is he would not be on the road carrying out his specialty, goodwill to men and women! Meanwhile he is worth twice what you pay him.

My best wishes to Tpr. McGlashan – you have a real gem there.

**Richard A. Kahler
Tiffin, Ohio**

Granville trooper named '2008 Hero Cop' by Parade magazine

Tpr. Aaron Reimer of the Granville Post received national recognition in November for his work to combat impaired driving among young people. He was one of 11 finalists for the highest honor in law enforcement, the Police Officer of the Year Award presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and Parade magazine.

In citing Reimer, Parade reported:

"Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among Americans between age 1 and 34. About 30 percent of Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash during their lives.

"To battle these alarming statistics, Tpr. Reimer launched an innovative project geared toward high school students.

"With the help of the 4-H Club's Car Teens and the Ohio State University Extension Office, Reimer teaches basic driving techniques, defensive driving and vehicle dynamics. He lets teens try Fatal Vision Goggles, which distort perception similar

to alcohol. He also created a gallery of graphic crash photos aimed to scare teens away from drinking and driving.

"His 30-minute programs are now used in schools, driver education and alcohol prevention programs throughout Ohio."

Reimer joined the Patrol in 1997 as a cadet dispatcher. He trained with the 131st Class and earned his commission in October 1998. He has served at Granville throughout his career.

He and his wife, Darla, reside in Newark with their three children.

The Police Service Awards were established by Parade and the IACP in 1966 to focus attention on the dedicated men and women of our nation's police force.

They are given for acts of valor, consistent service above and beyond the call of duty, the development of innovative programs and significant service to the community.

To read about Parade magazine's



Aaron Reimer

other 2008 Hero Cops, including Police Officer of the Year Michael Nilles of the Aurora, Illinois, Police Department, visit <http://www.parade.com/news/2008/11/police-officer-of-the-year.html>

Two classes join 'Over the Hill' club for 30 years of service

Nineteen new members recently joined the Patrol's "Over the Hill" club for achieving 30 years of service with the Division. The nine remaining members of the 104th Class achieved 30 years of service on September 20. They were honored at a ceremony at the Academy in September.

The 10 remaining members of the 105th Academy Class, which entered "Over the Hill" status on December 13, were also honored at a ceremony at the Academy.

Top: Active members of the 104th Class (from left): Capt. James Holt, Maj. Robert Booker, Tpr. Ronald Simmons, Maj. Mark Atkeson, Sgt. Gary Thompson, Lt. William Butts, Sgt. Robert Fulmer and Tpr. Thomas Lemmon. **Not pictured:** Tpr. Max Rentz.

Right: Active members of the 105th Class (from left): Capt. Russell Johnson, Tpr. James Kilgore, Sgt. Terry McGill, S/Lt. Barry Donley, Tpr. Gene Samson, S/Lt. Lance Mathess, Sgt. Michael Knoll, Lt. William Peck and S/Lt. John R. Allard. **Not pictured:** Tpr. James Adams.



Ace Award

Tpr. Joshua Baker, Georgetown, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$57,300 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

His fifth recovery came as he responded to a one vehicle crash. The suspect, who did not have permission to use the vehicle, was also charged with OVI. It was the suspect's fourth offense within six years, resulting in a felony charge. The suspect was ultimately sentenced to 24 months incarceration and a lifetime license suspension.



Joshua Baker

Tpr. Sean Eitel, Granville, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$27,450 and apprehended eight suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

His recovered a Toyota valued at \$5,500 after running a routine registration check on a vehicle at a rest area. The vehicle was entered as stolen through LEADS, with a wanted/missing person entry attached. Tpr. Eitel found the subject of the entry, who was wanted by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, asleep in the back of the vehicle and apprehended him without incident.



Sean Eitel

Tpr. Shane Borton, Toledo, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$7,500 and apprehended six suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

His third recovery came after he attempted to stop the suspect for speeding. After stopping the vehicle, the suspect fled on foot. Through his investigation, Tpr. Borton identified the suspect, who did not have permission to use the vehicle and was the subject of felony warrants from the Toledo Police Department.



Shane Borton

Tpr. Christopher Ellison, Piqua, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$58,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

Four of the five suspects Tpr. Ellison apprehended were charged with OVI. Three of those suspects were also driving while under suspension. The fourth suspect was also found to be in possession of marijuana at the time of his arrest.



Christopher Ellison

Tpr. James Cress, West Jefferson, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$16,500 and apprehended six suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

Two of his recoveries came after routine checks on the vehicles' registrations. In one instance, a pursuit ensued when Tpr. Cress attempted to initiate a stop. The suspect ultimately crashed the vehicle and was apprehended when he attempted to flee on foot.



James Cress

Tpr. Steven Ilo, Dayton, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$7,300 and apprehended five suspects to earn the second Ace Award of his career.

He recovered a 1999 Cadillac after he attempted to stop the vehicle for a marked lane violation. As he and Tpr. Michael Mahaffey approached the vehicle, the suspect sped away. A pursuit ensued, ending when the suspect driver crashed into two cars in an intersection. The suspect attempted to exit the vehicle, but was subsequently taken into custody.



Steven Ilo

Tpr. Daniel Edelbrock, Lima, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$25,300 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

All five of Tpr. Edelbrock's recoveries came after traffic stops. In each case, his investigations ultimately revealed the suspect drivers did not have permission from the vehicle owners to drive the vehicles. One of the suspects he apprehended also was charged with OVI.



Daniel Edelbrock

Sgt. Christopher Kelley, Gallipolis, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$9,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

Four of Sgt. Kelley's recoveries were made while he served as a trooper at the Jackson Post. Three of the suspects he apprehended were charged with OVI, including one suspect who was charged with her eighth OVI offense and also



Christopher Kelley

Ace Award con't

was the subject of a warrant through the Wellston Police Department.

Tpr. John Lamm, Ravenna, recovered six stolen vehicles valued at \$26,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

Three of his recoveries came as the result of one investigation. On July 14, Tpr. Lamm observed two vehicles, one carrying an ATV, stopped on the side of the roadway. He made contact with two suspects and subsequently arrested one for OVI. Further investigation revealed that all three vehicles were stolen. Both suspects were also identified as suspects in a breaking an entering case being investigated by the Portage County Sheriff's Office.

Tpr. William Lee, Canton, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$34,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

He recovered two vehicles through crash investigations and two vehicles after stopping the suspect drivers for traffic violations. Another recovery came after he ran a registration check on a vehicle a gas station attendant reported as suspicious. As Tpr. Lee was waiting for back up, the vehicle left the gas station without paying for its gasoline. Tpr. Lee stopped the vehicle and apprehended the driver who was also charged with OVI and DUS.



John Lamm



William Lee

Sworn Promotions

Lieutenant Scott Demmitt, Field Operations
Lieutenant Gene Jarvi, Investigative Services
Lieutenant Jeffrey Skinner, Athens
Lieutenant David Van Buren, Van Wert
Lieutenant Rudolph Zupanc, Investigative Services
Sergeant Jason Bittinger, Wooster
Sergeant Hugh Fredendall, Strategic Services
Sergeant Matthew Hamilton, Hamilton
Sergeant Thomas Hermann, Lisbon
Sergeant Thomas Holbert, Athens
Sergeant Timothy Root, Findlay DHQ
Sergeant James Sharp, Marysville

Professional Promotions

ET3 Kraig Kent, Findlay DHQ
Disp. Mary Skal, Technology & Communication Services

Tpr. Nicholas Lewis, Portsmouth, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$18,500 and apprehended six suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

He recovered two of the vehicles through one investigation. Tpr. Lewis was on stationary patrol when he observed two tow trucks, each towing vehicles that did not have license plates. He initiated a stop and ultimately arrested one suspect driver for DUS. Further investigation revealed both of the vehicles being towed were stolen out of Columbus.



Nicholas Lewis

Tpr. Jermaine Thaxton, Granville, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$23,800 and apprehended five suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

Three of his recoveries came during different activities while on routine patrol: checking on a disabled vehicle, investigating a crash and checking the registration of a vehicle, while his other two recoveries came during crash investigations.



Jermaine Thaxton

Certificate of Recognition

Tpr. Kathleen Durham, Marysville, earned a Certificate of Recognition for her quick action that saved a crash victim's life.

On July 23, Tpr. Durham arrived on the scene of a two-car injury crash just moments after the crash had occurred. She immediately went to assist the crash victims and found one driver unconscious and having difficulty breathing.

Tpr. Durham and a witness to the crash removed the victim from his vehicle and immediately began emergency aid by clearing the man's airway and initiating CPR. Through their efforts, the man began breathing normally.

Emergency medical personnel on the scene advised Tpr. Durham that the aid she and the witness provided had likely saved the man's life. The victim was then transported to the hospital by helicopter with life-threatening injuries. In the weeks following the crash, the victim's condition has continued to improve.



Kathleen Durham

Anniversary activities throughout the years

By Michele Vaughan, Patrol Historian

Even in the earlier days of the Division, members celebrated anniversaries. The earliest mention of such an event found in the Patrol's archives is the 10th Anniversary in 1943. In the March 1944 issue of the *Flying Wheel*, an editorial written by Sgt. William B. Spence (who later became a lieutenant), states that, "Every member takes pride in the department's first 10 years of public service. We can also be elated by the fact that our efforts have not gone unnoticed by the public. Many of the leading newspapers in the State carried editorials commemorating our tenth birthday."

One of those commentaries in the *Ohio State Journal* (predecessor to the *Columbus Citizen-Journal* and *Columbus Dispatch*) shows public admiration for the new state law enforcement agency. It also stresses the obvious influence made by the Division's officers — especially its leaders.

"Much of the fine record made by the Highway Patrol in its first 10 years is due to Colonel Lynn Black, who has been its head from the start. The patrol has asked no favors and it has made its own way from the very beginning," the editorial states. "In all of its dealings with the public, it has been notable for its courtesy, although this has never interfered with its firmness or action where they were necessary. Its fine record is a tribute to the quality of the men who have served in it and to the caliber of its leadership."

A party marked the 10th Anniversary. That dinner party, hosted by the Camp Perry School (First Academy Class) and their wives, took place at the Club Gloria in Columbus. During the festivities, Colonel Black presented each member of the Patrol with a gold pin with the Flying Wheel and a chain with guard and two stars on it. Former Ohio Department of Highways Director O.W. "Whitey" Merrell, the "granddaddy" of the Patrol, attended, according to the account in the *Flying Wheel*. The evening continued with — you guessed it — a floor show and dancing.

There also is mention of the Division's 11th Anniversary (also on November 15) in the November 1944 edition of the *Flying Wheel* in the form of two articles reprinted (but not attributed) from other publications, lauding the service and history of the Patrol.

Often, personnel mark anniversaries by offering for sale or gift items to its members. For example, this year, there was a commemorative pistol and rifle offered, as well as other things such as key fobs and wine goblets. The oldest memorabilia marking a birthday that is located in the Patrol's historic archives actually celebrates a Camp Perry reunion. It is a tiny, delicate decanter with six matching mini-glasses. The gold inscription on the decanter states, "Camp Perry, 1933-1949" — 16 years after the class' graduation.

Another party marked the 12th anniversary on November 15, 1945, at Gloria Inn; the party was called "a biennial affair" in the January 1946 *Flying Wheel*. Two poems — one called "Twelfth Anniversary (Ohio State Patrol)" — reminded everyone of the pride felt for the Division. Below is just an excerpt:

"Twelve short years, how time does fly,
But twelve long years when measured by
the toil, the sweat, the blood, the men,
who gave their all, their lives to them.
We stop to bow our heads in prayer
for those who have gone over there,
we dedicate our lives, we do,
to reach the goal they wanted too.
We vow they have not given in vain,
but by their all, we shall attain
the visions that they had for us
and never shall we toil for less."

The 25th Anniversary celebrations took place all year long in 1958, including district and post open houses, and news media features. "It indicated good relationships in the field and deserves commendation," wrote *Flying Wheel* editor Lt. Edward E. Smith in the March 1959 issue. "Every one of us can be proud of the general high opinion of our organization." The magazine also lists many congratulatory letters from various groups for reaching such an important milestone.

That issue includes a photo of the "granddaddy of all hitch parties" on November 14, 1958. Original members at the party included Colonel Fred Moritz, who was ill with can-





cer at the time and died the very next year; and Ben Knepper, the first aid instructor for the First Class.

A history book written for the occasion also served as an important touchstone for future Patrol aficionados – history summaries written afterward relied on much of the information provided in this booklet called simply, “Ohio State Highway Patrol: Quarter Century, 1933-1958.”

Local newspapers showed the first license plates used by the Patrol cruisers. Blue lettering expressed to Ohio drivers the arrival of the Division’s 25th anniversary.

A similar item developed to observe the 35th anniversary – Patrol employees and retirees bought a bumper sticker interspersed with gold. This year – 1968 – was memorialized again with open houses throughout the state at posts and district offices. The third annual Retiree Reunion/Gala and Dinner-Dance took place on November 15, 1968, on the anniversary date at the Neil House in Columbus. At the reunion, retired Sgt. Robert Shaw presented Colonel Robert Chiaramonte with a flag designed and made by himself and his wife. It is a burgee, or swallow-tailed, like the Ohio state flag, and is black with the Flying Wheel symbol embroidered onto it. More than 200 people showed up to the party, according to the account in the December 1968 *Flying Wheel*.

On November 16, 1973, Patrol personnel celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Division with a party at the Neil House. Many Ohio dignitaries attended the event as well, including business leaders like Robert Lazarus Jr., executive vice-president of The F&R Lazarus & Co., and golfer Jack Nicklaus. Post open houses and special days at state amusement parks for Patrol members served to mark the birthday celebrations, too. Lt. Tom Wheeler wrote a “historical review” book, and many purchased souvenirs to remember the occasion, including commemorative coins, guns, and key fobs.

A letter from Colonel Robert Chiaramonte to Patrol employees reminded all of the importance of remembering Pa-

trol history. On November 15, 1973, he wrote, “Our success would not be possible today without the outstanding record of loyal contribution by our employees for the past 40 years.”

Officials broke ground for a new post in Mt. Gilead on the Patrol’s Golden Anniversary in 1983. District and post open houses again highlighted the event, as did another gala, this time at the Aladdin Shrine Center (known then as the Aladdin Temple Shrine Mosque). According to the October-December 1983 edition of the *Flying Wheel*, nearly 1,600 people attended the party, and Governor Richard Celeste’s speech was “inspiring.”

“The 50th Anniversary was a celebration of people – past, present, and future,” the article states. “...thus the rich heritage of accomplishment is passed from generation to generation and enhanced by each new group of dedicated individuals.”

In addition to offering souvenirs like commemorative coins and weapons for the 50th Anniversary, Colonel Jack Walsh’s administration looked into purchasing a limited number of gold cars, but tossed out that idea because the Flying Wheel emblem did not stand out enough. Officials purchased silver cruisers instead.

For the 60th Anniversary, again District and post open houses lured the public in to see how local posts operate. Also, post dedications took place and more than 1,500 active and retired personnel, family, friends, and state dignitaries attended the gala party at the Aladdin Shrine Center on November 13, 1993. According to Colonel Tom Rice’s speech that night, the anniversary wasn’t important just because of the fact that the Patrol had reached its 60th birthday, “but because we have reached this milestone while maintaining the quality of service first established on November 15, 1933. We have seen tremendous change since the Patrol’s inception, however, professional, fair and courteous service remains a hallmark of our organization.”



Lieutenant Douglas Williard



Douglas Williard

After 25 years of service, Lt. Doug Williard, Field Operations, retired October 10. He began his Patrol career as a member of the 112th Academy Class and graduated in March 1983. His first assignment was to Lima where he served for five years and was Post Trooper of the Year in 1987.

After serving as an instructor at the Training Academy, he transferred to West Jefferson where he was

District and Post Trooper of the Year in 1991. He transferred to Circleville in 1992 before earning a promotion to sergeant in April 1993. He served as an assistant commander at West Jefferson and at Columbus District Headquarters before he was promoted to lieutenant in February 2002. Since that time he served in the Office of Field Operations.

In his career, he earned three Certificates of Recognition, the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 20 years of safe driving. He is a graduate of the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University.

He and his wife, Evelyn, live in Canal Winchester.

Sergeant David Sparks



David Sparks

Sgt. David Sparks, Lima, retired October 1 after more than 27 years of service. He is a member of the 110th Academy Class and earned his commission in 1981. His first assignment was to Marion where he was District and Post Trooper of the Year in 1991.

He transferred to Lima in 1992, and was Post Trooper of the Year there in 1997.

He earned a promotion to sergeant in 1998. He served as an assistant commander at Findlay and Lima before transferring to the Findlay District's Criminal Patrol Unit in 2004. He transferred back to Lima in January 2006.

In his career, he earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Lorinda, reside in Belle Center.

Sergeant Brian Vierstra

Sgt. Brian Vierstra, Cambridge District Criminal Patrol Unit, retired November 7 with 19 years of service. He trained



Brian Vierstra

with the 118th Academy Class, which graduated in November 1989.

He served in the field at Mansfield, Granville and Circleville before his promotion to sergeant in January 1997. He served as an assistant commander at Cambridge and Zanesville before transferring to the Cambridge Criminal Patrol Unit in February 2008.

In his career, he earned two Ace Awards, four Certificates of Recognition, the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 15 years of safe driving.

He and his wife, Stephanie, live in Thornville.

Trooper Daniel Flohr



Daniel Flohr

Tpr. Daniel Flohr retired December 19 after more than 29 years of service. He began his Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at Steubenville, where he served throughout his career. He is a member of the 110th Academy Class and earned his commission in July 1981.

In 1982, he earned the State Proficiency Award for Auto Larceny Investigation. He was Post Trooper of the Year in 1983. In his career, he also has earned a Certificate of Recognition and has been recognized for 20 years of safe driving.

Tpr. Flohr is a graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville. He lives in Blommingdale with his wife, Robin.

Trooper Stephen Stolarik



Stephen Stolarik

After more than 32 years of service, Tpr. Stephen Stolarik, retired on November 14. He trained with the 100th Academy Class and earned his commission in February 1977. He served at Cambridge throughout his career and was voted Post Trooper of the Year five times, earning District Trooper of the Year honors twice.

He won the Division's Robert M. Chiaramonte Humanitarian Award in 1994 for his involvement with numerous community safety and service programs. In his career, he

also earned the Ace Award, four Certificates of Recognition, the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving.

He and his wife, Marguerite, live in Byesville.

Police Chief Gary Rice



Gary Rice

Police Chief Gary Rice, Ohio Expo Center, retired December 8 after more than 23 years of service. He joined the Division in 1987 when police officers previously assigned to the Ohio Expo Commission were transferred to the Patrol.

He was promoted to police officer 2 in 1990, to police sergeant in 1997 and to police lieutenant in 2003. He was promoted to police chief at the Expo Center in April 2005.

He is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. He also earned the Office of Field Operations' Employee Recognition Award for 1996 and 2001. He and his wife, Renae, live in Galloway.

Dispatcher Lynnette Bramley



Lynnette Bramley

Disp. Lynnette Bramley retired November 27 with more than 31 years of service with the Division. She served at the Chardon Post throughout her career. She resides in Huntsburg.

Dispatcher Susan Stephens



Susan Stephens

Disp. Susan Stephens, Dayton, retired October 30 after 15 years of service with the Division. She joined the Patrol in 1993 at the Lebanon Post and also served at Hamilton before transferring to Dayton.

She and her husband, Gregory, reside in Camden.

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Roy Thompson



Roy Thompson

MCEI Roy Thompson entered disability retirement on August 1 after five years of service. He joined the Wilmington District's Commercial Enforcement Unit in 2003 as a stationary load limit inspector and was promoted to motor carrier enforcement inspector in 2005. He and his wife, Kelly, live in Clarksville.

Tailor Mary Hart



Mary Hart

Mary Hart retired October 24 after 18 years of service with the Division. She served as a tailor in the Logistic Services Section throughout her career. She resides in Columbus.

Custodial Worker Mary Street



Mary Street

After more than 31 years of state service, Custodial Worker Mary Street retired on December 19. She joined the Division in 1992 and has served at the Academy throughout her Patrol career. She resides in Columbus.

Patrol Retirees' Association holds annual banquet and meeting

The 2008 Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees Association Annual Banquet was held at the Aladdin Shrine Complex in Columbus. After the Pledge of Allegiance by 2nd Vice President Fred Goldstein and Invocation by Reverend Dick Ellsworth, widows and special guests were recognized and introduced. An excellent buffet meal provided by the Aladdin Shrine Complex was enjoyed by all.

After dinner, 2nd Vice President Goldstein read the names of retired members, active members, widows of retired members and spouses of retired members who were called home during the past year. As the names were read, Secretary Bob Carson and Treasurer Jim Spurrier placed a flower on a special Retirees' Association logo, followed by President Shel Senek ringing a bell. Our solemn ceremony provided an opportunity for all to honor and reflect on their contributions and passing.

President Senek honored Secretary Bob Carson and Treasurer Jim Spurrier for their continued service and presented to both the first Ohio State Highway Patrol 75th Anniversary key fobs. President Senek honored Past President Charlie Linek, presenting him with an Association logo clock and special Association lapel pin for his five years of service as the Association president.

Executive Director of the Retirement System, Dick Curtis, offered remarks noting it was difficult to offer a silver lining due to the current economic conditions, although health care costs have improved. Curtis said interest in wellness programs is growing and showing benefits already. Larry Davis, Retirement System board member, provided an overview of the state of the retirement system.

Russ Miller offered a brief update on the Snowbird Reunion, March 26-29, 2009, in Lakeland, Florida. Miller and Tom Bilang have graciously agreed to host the 2009 Snowbird.

Patrol Colonel Richard Collins offered an overview on the active ranks and the Division's achievements.

The Annual Banquet is the forum to install the newly elected association officers. Tom Rice administered the "Oath



Top: Peg Healy, James Walker, Roshele Walker and Bill Healy enjoy the festive atmosphere and fellowship of the Annual Banquet. Right: Linda Goldstein, wife of 2nd Vice President Fred Goldstein, and Pat Senek, wife of President Shel Senek, work the registration table.



of Office" to Past President Charlie Linek, Treasurer Skip Spurrier, Secretary Bob Carson, 2nd Vice President Fred Goldstein, and President Shel Senek. Association members were reminded the next meeting would be at the Patrol Academy, 11:00 a.m., January 7, 2009, in conjunction with the new first of each month "Ham & Bean" day implemented by Academy Commandant, Major Dan Kolcum.

The banquet concluded with a door prize drawing officiated by Past President Linek. Reverend Dick Ellsworth offered the Benediction.

Retiree wins court officers' award

The Ohio Bailiffs & Court Officers Association's Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton Award for 2008 was awarded to retired Capt. Roger Landis, executive director of the association. Ret. Capt. Howard Shearer (right), a previous Stratton Award winner, presented the award to Landis (left).

After retiring from the Patrol in 1994, Landis served as a bailiff and probation officer in the Fairfield County Court of Common Pleas, also serving on the court security committee. He later worked for the Fairfield County Municipal Court as bailiff and chief of security. He also worked for the Supreme Court of Ohio as a security contractor inspecting courts throughout the state.

The Stratton Award was established in recognition of Justice Stratton's leadership and inspiration in developing a solid foundation for an effective and efficient court security system in the Ohio Courts.



Retirees' Association sponsors Statehouse tree to mark Patrol 75th

On November 13, a tree re-planting ceremony sponsored by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association was held at the Statehouse in Columbus to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Patrol.

The original tree, which was lost in September to high winds from Hurricane Ike, was planted by Governor George

White in 1933.

The new white oak tree is adjacent to a rock that bears the original plaque from 1933 as well as a new plaque commemorating the Patrol's 75th anniversary. Active members, retirees and friends were on hand for the ceremony.



From left: Ret. Colonel Tom Rice, Ret. Lt. Colonel Tom Charles, Ret. Lt. Colonel Mike Everhart, Ret. Lt. Colonel Gil Jones, Ret. Lt. Colonel Dick Curtis and Ret. Lt. Colonel Shel Senek.



A plaque from the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association says the tree was replanted to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Patrol.



Expressing sympathy



James R. Hatfield

James R. Hatfield

Retired Tpr. James R. Hatfield, 74, passed away October 27 at Mercy Medical Center in Canton. He began his Patrol career as a dispatcher at Mansfield before training with the 50th Class. He served at Lancaster, Mansfield, Massillon and Ashland.

He was serving as an investigator at Massillon DHQ at the time of his retirement in January 1985. He is survived by his children: Cathy, Steve, Vicki and Beth.



Bobby G. Williams

Bobby G. Williams

Retired Tpr. Bobby G. Williams, age 71, died on November 23 at his home in Lindsey. He served as a dispatcher at Ashland before training with the 55th Class. He served at the Fremont Post for most of his career, before retiring as a member of the Lima Post in July 1983. He is survived by his children, Robert and Debra.

As a result of questions raised during Crucial Conversations sessions, we wanted to reiterate our desire for employees to submit news regarding Patrol-related activities around Ohio. These pages are dedicated to community and family activities our personnel are involved in. Unfortunately, we can not include information not related to Patrol activities. Questions can be directed through the Flying Wheel District/Section representative listed on page one.

Norwalk

Tpr. John Deptula, Norwalk, was awarded the Ohio Department of Public Safety’s Armed Forces Award of the Year at a Veteran’s Recognition Ceremony on November 13. A quarterly award honors ODPS personnel who also serve the United States military with the Armed Forces Award of the Year going to one of the quarterly winners.

Tpr. Deptula has completed two tours of duty in Iraq. During his second tour from August 2005 to November 2006, he sustained injuries to his knee, neck, shoulder and a concussion. After returning home, he underwent intense physical therapy and medical treatment for his injuries. After almost a year of rehabilitation, he returned to work on October 15, 2007.

During his two tours of duty in Iraq, Deptula was awarded the Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, one Bronze Star with Valor and the Combat Action Badge. Tpr. Deptula continues to serve his country with the Army Reserve.

Director Henry Guzmán along with Major General Gregory Wayt, and a representative from the Ohio Department



Director Henry Guzmán and Major General Gregory Wayt present Tpr. John Deptula with the Ohio Department of Public Safety’s Armed Forces Award of the Year.

ment of Veterans Services also recognized Quarterly Military Service Award recipients Tpr. Larry Bowman, Granville, and Tpr. Steven Schemine, Delaware.

Berea District



From left: Capt. Roger Hannay, NICB Agent and ret. Lt. John Paskan, Tpr. Darren Huggins and S/Lt. Monte Morgan. Not pictured: Sgt. Dennis Goodhart.

Tpr. Darren Huggins, Sgt. Dennis Goodhart and NICB Special Agent John Paskan (OSHP retired) were honored by the American General Contractors and the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators for an investigation that has resulted in the recovery of approximately \$1.4 million in stolen construction equipment to date.

The officers, along with members of the Pennsylvania State Police, were recognized for an ongoing case involving heavy construction equipment stolen from the Cleveland area and detected at auction in Pennsylvania.

Capitol Operations



Canine Nitro and his handler, Tpr. Ben Richardson were honored by the Ohio Senate in recognition of Nitro’s retirement. They are pictured with Senate Sergeant-at-Arms John Whaley (far left) and Senate President Bill Harris (far right).

After more than eight years of service, bomb detection canine Nitro has retired. Nitro, with his handler, Tpr. Ben Richardson, served at Capitol Operations since June 2000. Nitro and Tpr. Richardson routinely handled requests for assistance from agencies all over the state and provided service at large political campaign events, concerts and other large venue and high-priority events. Nitro also is trained in tracking, building search, apprehension and handler protection.

Chardon

The Chardon Post recently established a partnership with HOLA (Hispanics of Lake and Ashtabula County). With the assistance of the Division's Office of Strategic Services, the post created bilingual information cards.

These two-sided cards provide traffic safety information to both Spanish and English speaking people within the community. As part of this partnership, Chardon Post personnel conduct traffic safety meetings with local nurseries and their seasonal, Spanish speaking employees.

Through the use of interpreters provided by HOLA, Chardon troopers are able to help Spanish speaking members of the community understand traffic laws, which helps to improve overall safety on local roadways.



Lt. Jim Sivak demonstrates the effects of alcohol impairment to local nursery workers with Fatal Vision Goggles. Also pictured and assisting with translation is Lake County Victim Assistance Advocate and HOLA member, Gladys Figueroa Stec.



Academy

On September 13, Sgt. Paul March, Elyria, arranged a tour of the Patrol Academy for the Columbus Deaf Teens Club. Sgt. March also served as an interpreter for the tour. In addition to the facility, the kids had an opportunity to walk through a B.E.A.R. vehicle and operate the driving simulators.

Left: Deaf Teens Club members with Sgt. March and Tpr. Greg Crisp.

Jackson District

District Nine opened their Jackson Communication center on November 26. A renovation of the reports room will house the CAD and communications system for the Jackson District. Currently the Jackson and Chillicothe Post communications are handled through the Jackson Dispatch center; with Athens, Gallipolis, Ironton and Portsmouth to come over in February 2009.

Sitting, from left: Jamie Arnold and Kyle Lewis. Standing: Suzanne Dicken and Jason Whitt.



Athens

The Athens Post had a successful weekend during the annual Athens Halloween Block Party. The city is host to one of the largest Halloween block parties in the nation. Officials estimated 15,000 - 20,000 costumed party goers filled Court Street in Uptown Athens.

The Patrol worked with local law enforcement and other state agencies to help keep Athens and its surrounding roads safe for residents and visitors.



Ironton

On October 24, Sgt. Chris Smith and Disp. Gil LeBlanc (Teddy Trooper) conducted a School Bus Safety education program for the students of Burlington Elementary, approximately 250 students, ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade. During the program, Sgt. Smith talked to the kids about proper bus safety, rules for riding on the bus and unloading rules.

Batavia

On September 18, Tpr. Jason Taylor participated in a mock crash demonstration that was presented to the students of Bethel-Tate High School. The mock crash was to remind the students of the dangers of aggressive driving on the day before their football homecoming activities. More than 500 students were present for the demonstration.



Ironton

On October 4, Tpr. Warren Hunter participated in a combined-agency public safety day.

Post participation in the program included a patrol car display, distribution of traffic safety brochures and participation in a mock crash. Approximately 1,000 contacts were made throughout the program. As part of the Troopers Personal Plea program and as a *Partners for Safety* program with local McDonald's restaurants, motorists arriving at Wal-Mart while wearing their safety belt were awarded a coupon for free food.

There were 33 agencies and businesses involved in the educational program.



Warren District

Several Warren District officers participated in the "Grace and Andy Memorial Run" held at Hiram College on September 27. In March 2006, Hiram College students Andy Hopkins and Grace Chamberlain were killed by a drunk driver who had 11 previous OVI convictions. This was the second memorial run and a great opportunity to show our support for those killed and injured in OVI crashes. Hiram Village Mayor Lou Bertrand and Ohio Senator Timothy Grendell personally thanked our personnel for participating in the event.

Left to right: Tpr. Ken Hall, Mike Hixenbaugh (son-in-law of Sgt. Marvin Hill), Sgt. Hill and Tpr. John Ganley.

Emergency Day at COSI



At COSI's Emergency Day on October 18 in Columbus, the Patrol and dozens of Central Ohio agencies came together for a day of simulated emergency responses to educate and prepare attendees for worst case scenarios, including a planned explosion and the chain of response from



the city's top personnel. Tpr. Ty Skaggs, Marysville, greeted visitors to the Patrol's display. The Patrol's command vehicle (above right) also was a popular display at the event as troopers greeted more than 2,300 visitors.

Jackson District

The Jackson District has been working with basketball teams and cheerleading squads at local high schools to promote traffic safety. They have produced sports calendars for Vinton County, Wellston, Oak Harbor, Jackson and Meigs high schools. Each calendar features a photo of Patrol personnel with basketball and cheerleading athletes along with game schedules and a safety message.

Tpr. Mike McManis, Jackson Post, talks to Jackson High School basketball players and cheerleaders.



Ohio Troopers Baseball

Patrol employees from around the state recently competed at the 2008 Public Safety Baseball Tournament hosted by the Columbus Police Department Bulldogs.

Ohio Troopers went 1-2. Rick Albers and Mike Cannon were the leading hitters and Bill Staller was the winning pitcher. Fire Department New York City won the tournament.

Front (from left): Jeff Burroughs, Jeff Bernard, Lance Shearer, Matt Stenger, Tony Scherley, Mike Cannon. Back (from left): Josh Garrett, Bill Sattler, Rick Albers, Tom Bee, John Born, Rick Reeder, Jeremy Morris, Darren Weathington, and Jeremy Owens.



Strategic Services



Major John Born, commander of the Office of Strategic Services, recently presented executive secretary Libby Jenkins with her 35-year service pin. Libby joined the Division in November 1973 and has served at GHQ throughout her career in the former Driver and Vehicle Services Section, at the Training Academy, and now in Strategic Services.

Granville



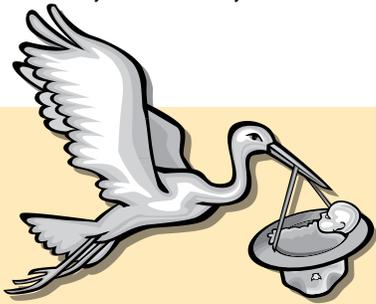
Granville quadruplets? It was discovered that four employees from District Six who share the same birthday (September 18), were all at the Granville Post one day in October. What are the odds? Sharing a September 18 birthday are: Lt. Larry Roseboro, portable scales Tpr. Marty Ferguson, Disp. Rhonda Moore and PLLI Michael Miller.

Dayton



Above: At the Dayton Air Show this summer, Sgt. Jeff Kramer and Tpr. Jason Hutchison received a rare photo opportunity with the pilot and crew of one of the U.S. Air Force's newest fighters, an F-22 Raptor. Air Force Major Paul "Max" Moga paused a few minutes to meet and talk to Kramer and Hutchison prior to a demonstration for 80,000 spectators.

Right: The Dayton Air Show is a huge event for Patrol personnel, and is very popular among their children. Sgt. Kramer and Tpr. Mark Murray, along with Ronald McDonald and Bucky Beaver, the Dayton Bombers hockey team mascot, and kids from the Highway Patrol family.



Stork Visits

Tpr. Adam & Tabitha McKenzie, Zanesville, a boy, 9/17/08.
 Tpr. Josh Bolduan & Jenna Howell, Swanton, a girl, 9/24/08.
 Tpr. Vern & Keri Pickering, Wooster, a girl, 09/30/08.
 Tpr. Daniel & Kim Keller, Warren DHQ, a boy, 10/03/08.
 Disp. Tracey (Berea DHQ) & Tpr. Adam Doles, Hiram, a girl, 10/4/08.
 DX Joy & Jeremy Hill, Findlay, a girl, 10/5/08.
 Sgt. Jacob & Karin Pyles, Wilmington, a boy, 10/7/08.
 Tpr. Orlando & Jasmine Pagan, Milan, a girl, 10/8/08.
 Tpr. Matt & Melissa Mossor, Wooster, a boy, 10/09/08.
 Tpr. Ebon & Deborah Harrison, Chardon, a girl, 10/15/08.
 Tpr. Mark & Cindy Herren, Cincinnati Operations, a girl, 10/15/08.

Lt. Dean (Bowling Green) & Disp. Gabrielle Laubacher, Van Wert, twin boys, 10/22/08.
 Tpr. Lee & April Burnem, Jackson DHQ, a girl, 10/22/08.
 Tpr. Thomas & Cindy Hacker, Ironton, a girl, 10/23/08.
 Tpr. Ryan & Lisa Stewart, Findlay DHQ, a boy, 10/23/08.
 Tpr. Chad & Alisha Smith, Wilmington, a boy, 10/26/08.
 Tpr. Charles & Carmen Jordan, Lebanon, twin boys, 10/27/08.
 Sgt. Michael & Amy Akers, Jackson, a boy, 10/29/08.
 Tpr. Keith & Crystal McClintock, Wooster, a boy, 11/04/08.
 Tpr. Nick & Tonette Hoffman, Gallipolis, a girl, 11/6/08.
 Tpr. Gamel & Khristina Brimah Piqua DHQ, a boy, 11/13/08.
 Tpr. Nathan & Crystal Webb, Chillicothe, a boy, 11/14/08.
 Tpr. Jason & Kate Lankey, Swanton, twins – a boy and a girl, 12/3/08.
 Sgt. Chris & Jill Kinn, Findlay, a boy 12/12/08.
 Tpr. Kyle & Nicole Mackie, Circleville, a girl, 12/14/08.

By the time this issue of the “Flying Wheel” is distributed, we will have celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Patrol. Although many changes have occurred over the past three quarters of a century, the primary mission has remained the same – to make the highways safer and more enjoyable for the citizens of this great State of Ohio. Additional responsibilities have been added but the spirit of commitment to service, putting service above self, has never changed.

As I reflected upon that spirit, my mind went to the Core Values which have become such a vital part of the present day life of the Patrol. The Core Values are memorized by cadets. They are known to all the active troopers and officers of the Patrol. However, it occurred to me the other day that it is one thing to know something, it is something else to believe it, but it is more important to live it.

This progression of knowing to living came into focus for me when I was asked to be a supply pastor at a local church. (Yes, it always does the ego of a retired pastor good to be asked to preach on a Sunday morning.) The thought that I wanted to develop was the very fact that we are called upon to live the gospel and not just believe it.

One of my favorite passages of scripture to which I sometimes make reference when talking to the cadets, is the story of the lost sheep. (Luke 15:3-7) It is a familiar portion of scripture which gave inspiration for a great hymn entitled “The Ninety and Nine.” It is a well known story about the one little lamb who did not report home in the evening. After

safely securing the 99 of the 100 sheep entrusted to him, the shepherd went out searching for the lost animal. The story concludes with the celebration of the lost being found.

Now what does this story have to do with the Core Values? It seems to me that it is important to remember once again that it is one thing to believe something, but it is much more important to live what we believe. It has often been said in a positive way that “anything is a cinch taken inch by inch.” We usually consider that when we talk about accomplishing some big task. Let me put it into a negative context and remind all of us that it’s very easy to fall off the straight and narrow when we begin to depart from the Core Values a little bit at a time.

It is my opinion that the lost lamb did not wake up in the morning and after stretching and yawning declare that he was going to get lost. I believe the lamb saw a little bit of juicy green grass and went over to nibble it. He then saw some more and continued on his journey, nibbling his way into lostness. Anything is a cinch when we tackle it inch by inch. That is true of getting off the beaten track. When we discover we can get away with something small, and then something again which may seem small and insignificant, until all of a sudden things add up and we are off the path which we knew to be correct.

This is true for an organization even as it is true for a nation. However, it begins with the individual. Each one of us, whether we are a sworn officer in the Ohio State Highway Patrol or a civilian benefitting from the services of

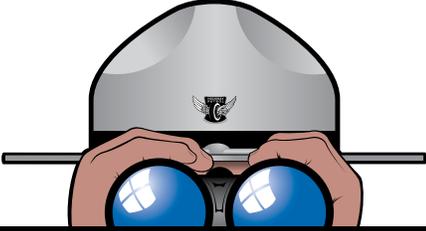


the patrol, has a responsibility for his or her own behavior. Even as I firmly believe that the Ten Commandments, given long ago, are still valid for all of us living in the present day, so I believe that the Core Values of the Ohio State Highway Patrol are valid for each one of us every day. We know them; we believe in them; we are called to live them. We are to live them every day whether at work, or home or play. It is truly a matter of commitment on the part of each one of us to live our lives at all times in the spirit of those values which we know in our hearts are true and valid.

Area Chaplains Hurlbert, McNerney, and Fulton join with me in wishing each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a joy-filled and life-fulfilling journey into the year 2009.

Richard D. Ellsworth

Richard D. Ellsworth
Chaplain



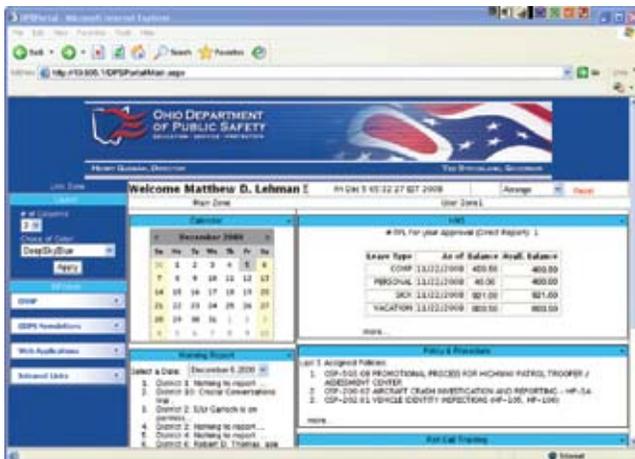
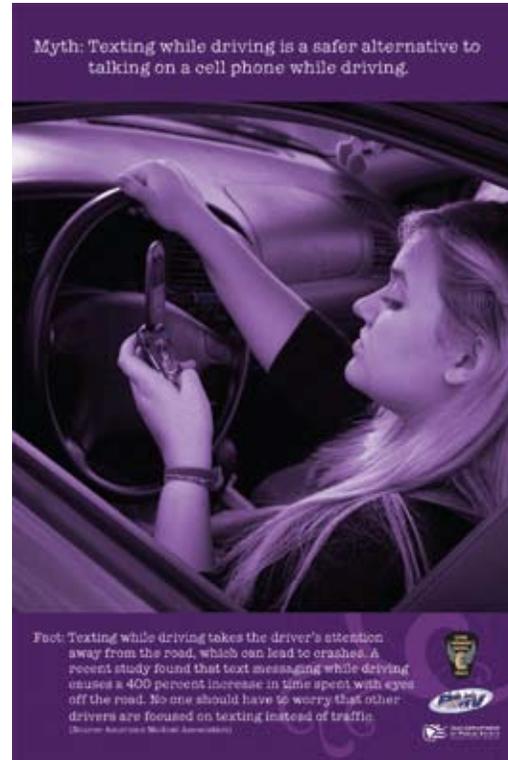
B.O.L.O.

B e o n t h e l o o k o u t

A glimpse at what's new and upcoming

Teen Driving Myth-Fact Posters

Coming to driver exam stations (DXs) this winter, a series of seven posters for display in all DXs designed to focus attention on teen driving safety. Each poster addresses a commonly believed myth many teens have about driving and the facts about each issue to “debunk” the myth. Topics include safety belts, crashes, cell phone use, passengers, marijuana use, night driving and texting.



Screen shot of the PORTAL which will house the Virtual Roll Call.

Virtual Roll Call

We have been working with Information Technology over the past year to design and implement a communications tool for delivery of timely information and for virtual roll call training for Patrol personnel that also is flexible enough for the other Public Safety divisions to use.

The result is the DPS PORTAL (left) which will be the “one stop shop” for all of the current directory programs that require separate login and password entry. Within the PORTAL there will be small modular programs called “Gadgets.” These gadgets can be moved around on the screen and saved so whether you are a supervisor, dispatcher or trooper, you will have available on your PORTAL those programs that you most likely will use or need.

Some of the gadgets you will recognize include HMS, morning report and policy, whereas others will be new, such as the Virtual Roll Call (VRC). The VRC will display documents, videos and web materials that have been distributed for review and will document the date and time you read or watch them. The Division will continue to build on this foundation for better communication and follow up methods so we can keep delivering high quality service to the people of Ohio.



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