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On the Cover

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is proud to celebrate 80 years of contributing to a safer Ohio.
The Ohio State Highway Patrol has experienced many changes over the last year, so I think it is appropriate to reflect on the year 2013 as we plan and prepare to tackle a new and hopeful year with the dedication and commitment to excellence that has made our great organization what it is today.

Our collective efforts and commitment to making tomorrow better than today have led to record seizures of illegal drugs from our highways, have saved lives that would have otherwise been lost in tragic traffic crashes and have given back to communities around Ohio in so many ways that it would be impossible to name them all.

Our personnel continue to go above and beyond expectations in their professionalism and team-oriented approach to making Ohio a safer place. They have continued to forge relationships in uncharted waters in our state’s most metropolitan areas, where crime often runs rampant and where people lose their lives in very predictable and preventable crashes.

We have embraced our ever-changing organization through adaptability and understanding that by working together, we can all accomplish more and do so with increased efficiency.

Our partners with the Ohio Investigative Unit continue to crack down on underage alcohol violations and adults who facilitate the purchase or consumption of that alcohol. With a continued holistic approach to addressing alcohol violations on and off the road, we have a real opportunity to change the tide of alcohol-related deaths in Ohio.

For the first time in Ohio history, all of our traffic safety partners are communicating on a regular basis through regional safety and information-sharing meetings. These partners come with the mutually beneficial mission of saving lives through crash reduction efforts, enforcement, education and engineering. The benefits are already paying off as 2013 is trending towards the safest year on our roads.

Our crime lab continues to evolve as the fruits of criminal interdiction continue to increase for the third consecutive year. The investment in examining our processes, investing in personnel and building a modern and efficient lab have all come together this year and the future for 2014 is extremely bright.

In 2013 we continued our investment in future leaders through enrichment opportunities and training, though the creation of the Public Safety Leadership Academy and through the addition of the Thomas P. Charles leadership wing at the Training Academy. As 2014 approaches, we will host the second annual Leadership Academy and begin using the leadership addition to continue developing law enforcement officers for our agency and other law enforcement agencies around Ohio.

This year we paused to celebrate our rich heritage at the 80th Anniversary Celebration on November 16. With nearly 800 attendees, I can say with certainty that our organization is strong and is as committed as ever to supporting the mission of providing professional traffic safety services to the citizens of Ohio for many years to come.

So as we look forward to 2014, let us build on our success and continue to strive to be better tomorrow than we are today; to provide professional traffic safety services with compassion and unbiased professionalism; to remove just one more impaired driver from our roadways and to continue to enforce Ohio’s safety belt law so we can continue to save lives one traffic stop at a time.

Thank you for your hard work, dedication and commitment to making Ohio a safer place.

Colonel Paul A. Pride
Superintendent
This fall, the Patrol partnered with the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA), Ohio National Guard and Ohio Department of Public Safety to roll out a new program, 5 Minutes for Life. This program is an educational campaign to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, the demand for illegal drug use among high school students and other young adults.

The program centers on troopers and Ohio National Guard members talking for five minutes with student-athletes from high school sports teams before or after a practice about responsible decision-making, leadership and encouraging those in their peer group to live a drug-free lifestyle.

Following the presentations, role models are encouraged to step up and volunteer to become a student ambassador for the program and spread the message within their school. The students are encouraged to use social media to promote these key concepts and post related video messages to campaign Facebook and Twitter sites operated by the Patrol.

The statewide partnership involves all 58 posts, more than 800 OHSAA-member high schools and Ohio National Guard Service members from around the state.

During the fall sports season, the program was delivered to nearly 5,000 teens across the state with very positive feedback. Program administrators are gearing up for the winter sports season and are looking forward to spreading the 5 Minutes for Life message. 5 Minutes for Life represents a tangible way in which Ohio high school students and athletes can contribute to a safer Ohio. It's only five minutes for the rest of their life.

To schedule a 5 Minutes for Life presentation at a high school in your area, contact your local post commander.

Following Lt. Brant Zemelka’s presentation with Ohio National Guard members at Shawnee High School, 12 student athletes volunteered to be 5 Minutes for Life ambassadors.

Lt. Kevin Knapp talks to Big Walnut High School student-athletes.
The Ohio State Highway Patrol and Nationwide Insurance have launched a statewide initiative to deter and catch vehicle thieves. Several highly equipped vehicles are being deployed in communities across Ohio. These cars have GPS tracking and in-car video surveillance capabilities, all designed to catch car thieves in the act.

“If you are thinking about stealing a car in Ohio, think twice,” said Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol Superintendent. “Thieves don’t know which cars are bait cars and which are not. Troopers will not only know when one of these vehicles has been stolen, they will also have the ability to shut the car off remotely, making it easy for officers to apprehend the suspects.”

The bait vehicle project, sponsored by Nationwide, has been successfully executed in several other states. The Patrol, working collaboratively with local law enforcement agencies, will place the bait vehicles in various communities experiencing vehicle theft. Then the Patrol will be able to monitor in real-time, from a remote location, when and where the car thief has taken the bait.

The National Insurance Crime Bureau estimates a 1.3 percent increase in U.S. auto thefts in 2012, ending an eight-year run of consecutive decreases.

“Nationwide takes great pride in providing support to law enforcement agencies throughout the country who work tirelessly to make our communities safer. We are particularly pleased with the relationship we have built with the Ohio State Highway Patrol right here in our own backyard,” said Nationwide Insurance Senior Vice President Dave Bano. “We repeatedly discuss the importance of using technology to stay one step ahead of criminals who seek to disrupt the lives of our customers and communities. We are committed to crime prevention programs such as bait cars.”

155th Class Begins
The 155th Academy Class commenced training on September 18, 2013, with more than 50 cadets expected to graduate in February 2014. The cadets will train for 22 weeks and complete courses including Core Values, crash investigation, criminal and traffic law, detection of impaired drivers, firearms, physical fitness, and self-defense. The cadets also will receive training in motor vehicle operations.

After graduation, their first 60 working days will be a field-training period under the guidance of a veteran officer.
On September 18, 2013, the Patrol broke ground for construction of the Thomas P. Charles Leadership Wing. The state-of-the-art addition represents an investment in the future of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Located in the Academy’s north courtyard, the new leadership center will include a nearly 300-seat auditorium with theater-style seating and a raised stage, additional classroom space and staff offices. The south wall of the auditorium will feature tinted glass that will permit a stately view of the Patrol Memorial, a new eternal flame dedicated to Reverend Richard and Linda Ellsworth and a new flagpole relocated in the center of the courtyard.

Planning for the addition began last year, and this project would not have been possible without the hard work and support of ODPS Director John Born and Retired Director Thomas P. Charles.
Recent Criminal Patrol Successes

November 18: Troopers seize Rx pills in Hancock County

Troopers stopped a 2013 Kia for marked lanes and following too close violations, on Interstate 75 in Hancock County. Upon speaking with the driver, the odor of raw marijuana was detected emitting from inside the vehicle and on his person. A probable cause search revealed 1,066 Oxycodone pills worth $31,980.

November 9: Troopers seize heroin

Troopers stopped a 2005 GMC on Interstate 74 in Hamilton County. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed two kilos of heroin valued at more than $300,000 concealed in the rear cargo area of the vehicle.

October 26: Troopers discover meth lab

Troopers stopped a 1993 Nissan for a license plate light violation in Jackson County. Criminal indicators were observed and a Jackson Police Department drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed a functioning meth lab in the bed of the truck.

September 30: Troopers seize cocaine from hidden compartment in commercial vehicle

Troopers stopped a Freightliner tractor-trailer on Interstate 70 in Madison County. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the commercial vehicle. A probable cause search revealed nearly 53 pounds of cocaine worth an estimated $2,016,000 concealed in a false wall at the front of the trailer. The Drug Enforcement Administration was contacted to assist with the investigation.

September 23: Troopers seize cocaine and black tar heroin from commercial vehicle

Troopers stopped a Freightliner tractor-trailer for a marked lanes violation on Interstate 80 eastbound in Wood County. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the commercial vehicle. A probable cause search revealed 42 pounds of cocaine and two pounds of black tar heroin, worth $2,072,000 combined, concealed in the cab of the truck.

August 14: Troopers seize 676 Oxycodone pills

Troopers stopped a 2007 Chrysler on Interstate 75 in Wood County. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed 676 Oxycodone pills worth $16,225 in the center console of the vehicle.
OSHP NEWS & EVENTS

Recent Vehicle Theft Unit Successes

Findlay District Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

The Findlay Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit recovered a 2006 Harley Davidson Night Train motorcycle and a 2011 Arctic Cat 1000 ATV from a suspect who was part of a large-scale cargo theft/chop-shop operation. The case involved 24 individual thefts of semi-tractors, trailers and cargo worth $2.5 million in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. The recovered motorcycle and ATV, valued at $18,000, were two units in a single semi-trailer load of 24 ATVs and motorcycles taken from a hotel parking lot in Montpelier, Ohio. Arrests in the case were made on February 7, 2013. Currently, nine suspects have been charged and four have plead guilty in U. S. District Court in Toledo.

Columbus District Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

The Alum Creek Salvage Inspection Facility was in the process of inspecting a 2007 Suzuki motorcycle when they identified a number of inconsistencies leading them to believe the vehicle may be stolen. The Columbus Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit was contacted and determined the frame and engine did not match. The engine number had also been filed down until it could not be read. With assistance from the National Insurance Crime Bureau, acid was utilized and the number was identified. It was subsequently determined the engine had been part of a stolen motorcycle from Blacklick, Ohio, while the frame was part of a motorcycle taken from Arkansas. The case remains under investigation.

Warren District Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

The Warren Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit (VTFU) was contacted by the Liberty Township Police Department and the Trumbull County Sheriff’s Office with the location of stolen construction equipment. The Product Identification Number (PIN) had been removed by the suspect to prevent identification of the equipment. VTFU identified the machine by a secondary, hidden PIN. The machine, valued at an estimated $35,000, was confirmed stolen and the VTFU was asked to handle the investigation, which resulted in felony charges and a subsequent plea to the charges by the suspect.

Cleveland District Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

The Cleveland Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit (VTFU) was contacted by Cincinnati Insurance and the Akron Police Department about an investigation into the reported theft of a tow company’s wrecker. Further investigation indicated insurance fraud and that the wrecker had been dismantled and parts were still at an employee’s house. A search warrant obtained by VTFU and executed at the house resulted in recovery of parts of the wrecker. The employee and the tow company owner gave full confessions to the insurance fraud scam and turned over more parts to the wrecker. Charges are pending.

All troopers are encouraged to look closely at VIN plates and Federal Identification Decals as well as pay close attention for indicators of fraud. Troopers with questions are encouraged to contact their local VTFU.
Recent Ohio Investigative Unit Successes

Toledo Alcohol Server Knowledge

On October 7, 2013, the Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU), the Patrol and the University of Toledo Police Department hosted an alcohol server knowledge training program at the University of Toledo for more than 130 Lucas County area liquor permit holders and staff.

Dr. Brian and Cindy Hoeflinger spoke during the program about their 18-year-old son, Brian, who consumed alcohol at a house party, attempted to drive and crashed his car into a tree, killing himself.

At the request of the Ottawa Hills Police Department, the OIU conducted a trace-back investigation. Agents determined Brian’s friends were able to purchase alcohol underage and supplied it to Brian. The clerk who sold the alcohol was charged with selling alcohol to a person under 21.

“We are so thankful that the Hoeflingers were able to share their story of how the sale of alcohol to underage people can lead to tragedy,” said Toledo Agent-in-Charge Raymond Rodriguez.

Also during the presentation, OIU agents addressed Ohio liquor laws, rules and regulations, while troopers talked about the consequences of drinking and driving.

“We could not have asked for a better turnout,” Rodriguez added. “Our goal is to work with permit holders and their staff on education and training. We would rather work together than take enforcement action after a violation has occurred.”

ASK is free for liquor permit holders and their employees. For more information, contact OIU at (614) 644-2415.

80 Years of OIU

OIU celebrated 80 years of service to Ohio in 2013. As prohibition ended in 1933, the state created an agency to oversee the production and sale of alcoholic beverages. On December 23, 1933, the General Code of Ohio—6064 became effective, creating the Department of Liquor Control. Under this code, the enforcement division was charged with conducting investigations at licensed and unlicensed liquor sales locations. Agents were also tasked with stopping the illegal sale, distribution and manufacturing of beer and alcohol for public consumption.

In 1995, the enforcement division transferred to the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Over the years, more enforcement efforts have been added including food stamp and tobacco enforcement. In 1999, the enforcement division was renamed the Ohio Investigative Unit. On January 1, 2013, OIU was integrated into the structure of the Patrol.

During 80 years of enforcing the state’s liquor laws, OIU has been involved in investigating and enforcing cases including bootlegging, moonshine, illegal gambling, drugs, weapons, underage drinking, prostitution and tracing back the sale of alcohol after an alcohol-related crash.

As OIU celebrates 80 years of service, we honor Agent James Burns who was shot and killed in the line of duty as he attempted to arrest a suspect in an illegal liquor sales establishment in Xenia on November 7, 1964. In 1991, Agent Burns’ name was officially dedicated to be placed on the wall at the National Peace Officers’ Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Halloween Enforcement

Many of Ohio’s larger Halloween celebrations, including those in Athens, Kent and Dayton’s Oregon District, took place on October 26, 2013. OIU agents were on hand looking for underage alcohol and furnishing violations.

During a two-day enforcement effort, agents from the Athens District Office made 90 arrests. Most charges were underage alcohol offenses. Other offenses included furnishing, fake ID, disorderly conduct, drug abuse, resisting arrest and obstructing official business. Agents from the Canton and Cincinnati district offices worked enforcement efforts in Kent and the Oregon District in Dayton, which resulted in arrests for underage possession of alcohol, open container and possession of marijuana.

Food Stamp Cases

- On October 30, 2013, agents took enforcement action for the second time in a year at Say Inc., also known as Shop-Shop, in Toledo. The most recent case was opened after agents received tips that the location was continuing to traffic food stamp benefits.

- Five people and two businesses were indicted October 30, 2013, in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for food stamp-related crimes including trafficking in or illegal use of food stamps; petty theft and trademark counterfeiting charges. OIU agents investigated the business for more than a year after receiving complaints that customers were allowed to pay cell phone bills in exchange for SNAP benefits. United Cellular 1, LLC, also known as United Wireless is not an authorized SNAP retailer.

- In another case, agents began investigating Mr. V’s Convenience, Inc., in Cleveland in the spring after receiving reports of illegal activity with SNAP benefits. Three suspects and the business were indicted on trafficking in or illegal use of food stamps, and theft. In addition, the liquor permit for Mr. V’s was administratively cited for multiple counts of illegal possession of electronic benefits transfer (EBT), illegal use of EBT, theft and trafficking in EBT.
The Ironton Post was challenged to purchase Ducks for Bucks by WKEE Radio and the Kentucky State Police to raise money to support breast cancer testing and treatment at hospitals in Lawrence County and the tri-state area. The Ironton Post was victorious with the purchase of 64 ducks. Pictured from left: Sgt. C.R. Smith; Lt. B.L. Call; Jenn Seay, WKEE; Sec. Trish Scarberry; and Dave Roberts, WKEE.

@OSHP Thank you for your service and for the great job at the AQHA Quarter Horse Congress.

Thanks to OSHP for doing speed enforcement in front of my kid’s school this morning. It’s exactly the kind of direct action needed to protect our children, and we appreciate everything the troopers do for our families. Today I saw an SUV in the median and one of your troopers was on his hands and knees helping the motorist with his car trouble. It says a lot of the trooper to be willing to be on his hands and knees in the dirt to lend a hand. Great work!

Thank you to the @OSHP officer who helped my sister change a flat tire on the side of I-71 today. You guys do outstanding work. Stay safe!

Yesterday I needed assistance on I-71. Tpr. Holloway stopped to check on us, then proceeded to go above and beyond his call of duty to assist. What a nice, pleasant and helpful young man! He needs a pat on the back and a huge THANKS! Thanks again, Coby!

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www.twitter.com/oshp
www.facebook.com/ohiostatehighwaypatol

A sampling of messages received on the Patrol’s Facebook and Twitter pages:

I just wanted to send my sincere thanks and appreciation for Tpr. Boysel for changing my flat tire on I-75. I didn’t know what happened when my car made horrible noise and then started to smell and drive erratically. I nervously pulled to the side of road and not but a few minutes later, the officer pulled behind me and instantly calmed me down with his reassuring words. He checked and sure enough, flat tire. He said he would change it for me and I was so thankful that we have such a wonderful, kind-hearted, helpful Ohio State Highway Patrol officers on this staff!

Thank you to Sgt. Chris Smith and the Ohio State Highway Patrol for purchasing 64 Pink Ducks! All the proceeds go to helping women in the Tri-State receive life-saving mammograms.

My wife was involved in a crash on October 3, 2013, in which Trooper Jeff Evans cited her. My wife and I are very appreciative of how kind and caring he was in calming her down before I arrived. Even after I arrived, he continually kept us informed and checked on her welfare as well as the other driver. He was very professional, but at the same time empathetic about the entire situation. Please advise his post commander that we appreciate him and the Patrol.

Kevin D. Miller

The FBI National Academy Program

Lt. Kevin Miller was one of 208 law enforcement officers who graduated from the FBI National Academy Program at Quantico, Virginia, on September 20, 2013. The 254th Session of the National Academy consisted of chiefs, sheriffs and commanders from 49 states, 22 countries, three military organizations and one federal civilian organization.

The National Academy Program at the FBI Academy offers 10 weeks of advanced investigative, management and fitness training for officers with proven records as professionals within their agencies. Training is provided by the FBI Academy staff, special agents and other staff members holding advanced degrees, many of whom are recognized internationally in their fields of expertise.

Lt. Miller is a member of the 132nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in April 1999 and was assigned to the Toledo Post, where he was Post Trooper of the Year twice. In 2004, he was promoted to sergeant and served in the Labor Relations unit and then as an assistant commander at Delaware. In 2009, he was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to GHQ. In 2012, he transferred to his most recent assignment with the Criminal Patrol Unit.

Kevin D. Miller
Certificate of Recognition

Tpr. David M. Brown and Tpr. Erik A. Golias, Warren District Criminal Patrol, received Certificates of Recognition for lifesaving actions. On October 3, 2013, Tpr. Brown was investigating the cause of altered traffic flow on Interstate 680 in Youngstown when he observed a pickup truck driving erratically. He moved directly behind the truck as it came to a stop against the center concrete barrier. As Tpr. Brown approached the vehicle, it suddenly lurched forward. Recognizing the vehicle was still in drive, Tpr. Brown entered the cab and secured the vehicle in park. He also immediately deduced the driver was suffering from an apparent drug overdose. Tpr. Brown pulled the driver out of the vehicle and immediately began first aid with assistance from bystander Karen Ross and Tpr. Golias. While Tpr. Brown monitored the driver with an automated external defibrillator, Ms. Ross and Tpr. Golias performed CPR until emergency medical personnel arrived on the scene. The driver was transported to a local hospital where medical personnel reported the actions of Tprs. Brown and Golias and Ms. Ross saved the man’s life.

Tpr. Sidney M. Steele, Lebanon, received a Certificate of Recognition for lifesaving actions. On September 11, 2013, Tpr. Steele was on his way home from an off-duty detail when he heard a broadcast reporting a man walking on the Jeremiah Morrow Bridge. Knowing the man was potentially suicidal and realizing he was closer to the scene than on-duty troops in the area, Tpr. Steele decided to respond. As he arrived on the scene, he saw the man walking near the edge of the bridge. Tpr. Steele exited his patrol car and cautiously approached the man from behind. When the man noticed Tpr. Steele, he stated his intent to jump. Tpr. Steele then ran to the man, grabbed him and wrestled him away from the edge of the bridge. The man was transported to a local hospital for evaluation.

Aux. Ofc. Christopher T. Scarberry, Zanesville, received a Certificate of Recognition for lifesaving actions. On August 20, 2013, Aux. Ofc. Scarberry and Tpr. Joshua A. Weaver were patrolling US 22 in Muskingum County when they attempted to initiate a traffic stop for a speed violation. The suspect vehicle continued on US 22 at a high rate of speed to the Newton Township Volunteer Fire Department. When the vehicle stopped, Tpr. Weaver made contact with the occupants and quickly ascertained an infant in the vehicle was not breathing. Tpr. Weaver immediately called for the emergency medical services while Aux. Ofc. Scarberry, who is an emergency medical technician, assessed the infant and determined the baby’s airway was blocked. Aux. Ofc. Scarberry cleared the airway and the baby began breathing on his own. He then continued first aid procedures until the infant responded to stimuli. The Newton Township Fire Department transported the baby to a local hospital where he was treated and released.

Certificate of Appreciation

Lt. Heidi Marshall and Personnel Testing Specialist 3 Tanya Benner, Office of Personnel, were recognized for their work in establishing the Ohio Public Safety Leadership Academy, an innovative law enforcement management training program developed by the Patrol and The Ohio State University – John Glenn School of Public Affairs. The inaugural class of 30 law enforcement officers graduated June 14, 2013.
On November 15, 2013, commanding officers at each facility delivered this message from Colonel Pride in recognition of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s 80th birthday.

Since the inception of the Ohio State Highway Patrol 80 years ago, thousands of individuals have played a role in creating our rich and storied legacy. Our organization is recognized as one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the world. Our greatest strength today, and throughout our history, is the commitment and dedication of our troopers and professional staff. From the very beginning, our success has been linked to ordinary men and women working together to achieve extraordinary results.

While it may be easy to get lost in the day-to-day grind of our jobs and lives, there is no doubt that the men and women of the Patrol care deeply about the direction of the organization and are eager to contribute in a variety of ways.

More has been asked of our agency in the past several years than at any time in our history. We have risen to each new challenge, and in so doing, have positioned the organization to meet the new enforcement and technological challenges that lie ahead.

As we celebrate our rich heritage, may we not overlook the hard work and dedication that helped shape the first 80 years. Today, around the state, in gatherings large and small, Highway Patrol personnel will assemble to honor our history and the memory of those who have preceded us. It is fitting that we do so, for it is our profound respect for our traditions and reverence of our heritage that distinguishes us as the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

To the troopers and professional staff working today, to those training and preparing to wear the uniform and to the “old guard” who no longer wear the uniform, we honor your selfless service to the Great State of Ohio. To our loved ones who endure the many difficulties that come with being part of the Highway Patrol Family, I want to extend my sincerest thanks for all you have done and all you will continue to do.

To everyone in the Patrol Family, past and present, who uphold the finest traditions of the Flying Wheel, Happy Birthday! You are anything but ordinary.
On behalf of the members of the House of Representatives of the 130th General Assembly of Ohio, I am pleased to congratulate the Ohio State Highway Patrol on the Eightieth Anniversary of its founding, celebrated November 16, 2013.

A cohesive group of committed and motivated individuals, the Ohio State Highway Patrol has been a vital instrument for community safety for eight decades. It is through the unflagging efforts and committed support of generations of law enforcement officers such as these that our state continues to grow and prosper and remain responsive to the diverse needs of its residents.

Countless citizens owe their safety, and some their very lives, to the members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, who have displayed outstanding courage and initiative in the performance of their duties, as well as an unswerving dedication to excellence on the job every day, and I applaud them on their exemplary efforts.

Thus, with genuine pride, I commend the Ohio State Highway Patrol on the auspicious occasion of its Eightieth Anniversary and salute its members as some of Ohio’s finest citizens.
Almost 800 active and retired, along with family and friends were on hand on November 16, 2013, at the Aladdin Shrine Center to celebrate the Patrol’s 80th Anniversary.

The celebration, hosted by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary, the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees’ Association, State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union and the Ohio Troopers Coalition, was a wonderful opportunity to honor sworn officers, professional staff, retirees, volunteers and family members. Five retired superintendents (Colonel Thomas W. Rice, Colonel Kenneth L. Morckel, Colonel Paul D. McClellan, Colonel Richard H. Collins and Colonel John Born) were among the attendees who enjoyed the fellowship, music and dancing.

Some highlights of the evening included Becky Landis (CEO, State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union) awarding S/Lt. David Church the Credit Union’s charity basket. All proceeds were donated to the Ohio Special Olympics. Other winners included Tpr. Brent Hunter who held the winning ticket for the commemorative handgun and Ed Perkins, the proud owner of the commemorative shotgun.

We should all be proud of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s many contributions to public safety. Every person in our organization has helped build upon the traditions began on November 15, 1933.
Joint Exercise Advisory Review

On October 25, 2013, the Patrol’s Special Response Team, in conjunction with the Ohio National Guard, conducted a joint exercise on the grounds of the Ohio Statehouse. The joint exercise was conducted to ensure operational readiness.

Chillicothe

On September 20, 2013, Tpr. Thomas G. Cassity and Pike County Sheriff’s Deputies Jim Burchet and Joel Jenkins received certificates of recognition from State Representative Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) for saving the life of a 14-year-old boy who was severely injured in a fiery head-on collision in Pike County in June.


Warren

The Warren District organized and facilitated the NHTSA Region 5 Conference Call on October 25, 2013, and enjoyed a high rate of participation by local law enforcement partners.

S/Lt. Joel Smith led the meeting, which covered funding and goals among other topics.
The Van Wert Post and the Findlay District Motor Vehicle Inspection Team participated in National School Bus Safety Week with a safety presentation at Lincolnview School in Van Wert County. Kindergarten students received beanie school buses donated by International Corporation.

The Findlay District Motor Vehicle Inspection Team also sponsored a coloring contest to draw attention to school bus safety. Prizes were donated by the Van Wert Area Cushman Club, Cardinal Bus Sales and Ohio Troopers Coalition.

Right: Lt. Brode and Cheryl and Carl Arn from the Van Wert Area Cushman Club are pictured with coloring contest winners from Crestview, Lincolnview, Van Wert, Delphos City and St. Johns.

Piqua

On September 14, 2013, the Piqua Post participated in Gover Harley Davidson’s Hero Day. The annual event’s purpose is to show support and appreciation for members of the military, law enforcement, fire and EMS. Hundreds of guests enjoyed the exhibits and the opportunity to view the 2013 Dodge Charger.

Right: Tpr. Jim Boysel provides a demonstration to guests.
Canfield

The Canfield Post and Mahoning County Safe Communities shared booth space at the 165th Canfield Fair, August 26 – September 2, 2013. Troopers passed out traffic safety materials, demonstrated Fatal Vision goggles and answered questions. The event was an excellent opportunity for the Canfield Post to educate a diverse group of people on the dangers of impaired driving and to promote seatbelt usage.

Left: Tpr. David Brown shows a Highway Patrol Dodge Charger to Canfield Fair visitors.

Marysville

In August, the Marysville Post and motorcycle units from the Columbus Metro Post participated in Logan County Law Enforcement Day.


Warren

The Warren Post participated in “Volley for a Cure” for breast cancer awareness month. Post personnel played a charity match against the Champion High School junior varsity volleyball team with all proceeds going to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Xenia

Field Operations

On November 25, 2013, the TOTAL station utilized by the Findlay District’s Crash Reconstruction Unit was donated to the Findlay Police Department. From left: Lt. Brent Meredith, Lt. Christopher Kinn, Capt. Gary Allen and Findlay Police Chief Greg Horne.

Findlay District

Andrew Baldridge Softball Tournament

On August 25, 2013, 11 teams from around the state participated in the third annual Andrew Baldridge Softball Tournament. The event raised $2,064 for the Andrew Baldridge Memorial Scholarship fund. A special thank you to the Ohio State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union for donating food and time to support the snack tent.

East vs. West Golf Challenge

On October 14, 2013, the annual East vs. West golf challenge took place in Columbus. The West Team emerged victorious over the East and a team of retirees.

Field Operations

On September 5, 2013, the Office of Field Operations hosted a chili cook-off to benefit Operation Feed. The event raised $67 and everyone who attended enjoyed a delicious lunch. The winners are pictured above (from left): Lt. Steve Rine (3rd place), Maj. John Bistor (1st and 2nd place) and Federal Programs Manager Felice Moretti (4th place).

On September 25, 2013, the TOTAL station utilized by the Findlay District’s Crash Reconstruction Unit was donated to the Findlay Police Department. From left: Lt. Brent Meredith, Lt. Christopher Kinn, Capt. Gary Allen and Findlay Police Chief Greg Horne.

In September and October, the Xenia Post partnered with the Greene County Sheriff’s Office, Greene County Safe Communities, local police departments and high schools to send a unified message to teen drivers that texting and driving is dangerous. Above: Lt. Douglas Eck and Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer with Greene County Career Center law enforcement students.
John R. Miller

Sgt. John R. Miller, Cleveland Metro Post, retired on September 5, 2013, after more than 27 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1985 as a member of the 115th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to the Milan Post.

In 1987, he transferred to the Hiram Post, where in 1987 and 1991 he earned a Certificate of Recognition. In 1992, he transferred to the Norwalk Post. Several months later, he transferred to the former Berea District Headquarters. In 1997, he returned to the Milan Post, where in 2001 he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and returned to the Norwalk Post where he served as an assistant post commander. In 2006, he transferred to the Berea District’s Licensing and Commercial Standard Unit. In 2012, he transferred to his most recent assignment at the Cleveland Metro Post.

Sheldon A. Goodrum

Tpr. Sheldon A. Goodrum, Swanton Post, retired on October 5, 2013, after more than 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in August 1988 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Medina Post. He began training with the 118th Academy Class in May 1989. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Swanton Post, where in 2003 he was named Post Trooper of the Year by his peers.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from the University of Toledo in 1997 and a Master of Science degree in criminal justice from Tiffin University in 2007.

Brent E. Hill

Tpr. Brent E. Hill, Lebanon Post, entered in the line-of-duty disability retirement on November 3, 2013. He joined the Patrol in September 2012 as a member of the 153rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in February of this year and was assigned to the Lebanon Post. Trooper Hill was struck by a vehicle while investigating an OVI crash, 15 days into his field training period.

Michael D. Meyers

Tpr. Michael D. Meyers, Office of Special Operations, Aviation, retired on September 20, 2013, after more than 34 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1979 as a member of the 106th Academy Class.

He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Medina Post. In 1984, he transferred to the Chardon Post, before returning to the Medina Post in 1986. In 1988, he transferred to his most recent assignment in the Aviation Unit, where in 1995 he earned a Certificate of Recognition.

Carol M. Sanchez

Tpr. Carol M. Sanchez, Columbus District Commercial Enforcement, retired on October 18, 2013, after more than 35 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in 1978 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Lancaster Post.

She began training as a member of the 106th Academy Class in May 1979. She earned her commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Wilmington Post. During her career she has served at the Wilmington, Granville and the former Eaton Posts, in the Office of Strategic Services and her most recent assignment at the Columbus District Commercial Enforcement.

Philip R. Sheaffer

Tpr. Philip R. Sheaffer, Warren Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit, retired on September 6, 2013, after more than 34 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 1979 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Massillon Post.

He became a member of the 110th Academy Class in February 1981. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Ravenna Post. In 2011, he transferred to his most recent assignment as a school bus/motor vehicle inspector at the Warren District’s Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit.
Rodney J. Stufflebean

Tpr. Rodney J. Stufflebean, Columbus District Commercial Enforcement, entered in the line-of-duty disability retirement on August 25, 2013, after more than 19 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol as a member of the 126th Academy Class in February 1994. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Delaware Post. During his career he also served at the Granville Post, Columbus District Headquarters, and Capitol Operations, before being assigned at his most recent assignment at the Columbus District Commercial Enforcement in March 2008.

Lee Sredniawa

Trooper Lee E. Sredniawa, Warren Post, entered in the line-of-duty disability retirement on November 3, 2013, after more than 19 years with the Patrol. He began his career in February 1994 as a member of the 124th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Ashland Post. As a trooper he also served at the Canfield and Warren Posts. In 1995 he earned the Superintendent’s Citation of Merit Award and the O.W. Merrell Meritorious Service Award.

Michael C. Williams

Tpr. Michael C. Williams, Hamilton Post, entered in the line-of-duty disability retirement on August 25, 2013, after more than 20 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1993 as a member of the 125th Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Hamilton Post, where he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 1994 and 1995 and was named Post Trooper of the Year by his peers in 1996 and 2007. During his time with the Patrol he also served at the Lebanon and Batavia Posts, having spent most of his career at the Hamilton Post. Tpr. Williams earned an Associate of Arts degree in business administration in 1989 and a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice in 1999, both from the University of Cincinnati.

Gary A. Wright

Tpr. Gary A. Wright, St. Clairsville Post, retired on October 1, 2013, after more than 35 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in March 1978 as a member of the 103rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the former St. Marys Post. In January 1980 he transferred to his most recent assignment at the St. Clairsville Post, where in 1985, 1995, 2009 and 2010 he was named Post Trooper of the Year; earned the Ace Award of excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 1985; and District Trooper of the Year in 2010.

Stephen F. Gray

Motor Carrier Enforcement Supervisor Stephen F. Gray, Warren District, retired on November 29, 2013, after more than 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in 1984 as a motor carrier enforcement inspector. In December 1998 he was promoted to supervisor. During his career he worked in the former Massillon District and the Warren District.

Iric J. Fidram

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Iric J. Fidram, Warren District, retired September 30, 2013, after more than 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in 1984 as a motor vehicle inspector assigned to the Lisbon Post. Two years later he transferred to commercial enforcement in the Warren District. In 2010 he was promoted to a motor carrier enforcement inspector in the Warren District, where in 2011 he was named Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector of the Year.
OSHP RETIREMENTS

Susan J. Adams
Dispatcher Susan J. Adams, Athens Post, retired on November 30, 2013, after more than 17 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol as a dispatcher in March 1996 at the Marietta Post. In 2008, she transferred to the Cambridge Dispatch Center before transferring to her most recent assignment at the Athens Post in 2012.

Clara M. Oglesbee
Dispatcher Clara M. Oglesbee, Piqua Dispatch Center, entered disability retirement on August 1, 2013, after 23 years of service. She joined the Patrol in May 1989 as a dispatcher at the former Bellefontaine Post. She also served at Wapakoneta and Marysville before transferring to her most recent assignment in 1992.

Cynthia M. Bell
Administrative Professional 2 Cynthia M. Bell, Photographic Services, retired on November 29, 2013, after more than 23 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in October 1990 as a layout and design artist in Photographic Services and assisting Visual Communications. She has spent her entire career with Photographic Services.

Derby J. Bolinger
External Auditor 2 Derby J. Bolinger, LEADS, retired on November 4, 2013, after more than 32 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in December 1980 as a communications tech. In September 1984 she was promoted to a data security coordinator. In August 2000 she was promoted to a data security specialist. In March 2010 she was promoted to external auditor.

Marlene L. Brightwell
Administrative Professional 2 Marlene L. Brightwell, Crime Lab, retired on November 29, 2013, after more than 25 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in 1988 as a data entry operator. In 1992, she was promoted to an office assistant in Special Operations. In 2000, she was promoted administrative assistant in the Crime Lab. In 2011, she was promoted to her most recent position as an administrative professional.

Angela L. Carter
Statistician 1 Angela L. Carter, Office of Field Operations, Traffic Statistics, retired on September 30, 2013, after more than 35 years of service. She began her career as a data entry operator in 1978. Angela was promoted to statistician in 1989 and remained a FARS analyst throughout the rest of her career.

Debra K. Hardeman
Administrative Professional 1 Debra K. Hardeman, Van Wert Post, retired on October 25, 2013, after more than 28 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in December 1984 as a dispatcher at Van Wert, where she was Post Dispatcher of the Year in 1989. In 1990 she transferred to Van Wert as an administrative professional.

Harry R. Sturch
Maintenance Repair Worker 2 Harry R. Sturch, Steubenville Post, retired on November 1, 2013, after more than 12 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in July 2001 as a maintenance repair worker and was assigned to the Steubenville Post, where he has worked throughout his career.
As we celebrated the 80th Anniversary of the birth of the Ohio State Highway Patrol it occurred to me that we cannot have the present without having had the past; and we cannot have a future without the present. Because of my profession, I turned to two “texts” from the Bible which would support that idea. Those portions of Scripture are Isaiah 51:1 from the Old Testament and Hebrews 12:1 from the New Testament. These portions of Scripture are not just theological in nature; they are true teachings to be applied in a practical manner.

The Isaiah passage is good advice reminding the people of the importance of their heritage. The prophet declared: “Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were digged.” We cannot live in the present without recognizing that from which we have come. Family trees are important. There are many appeals for us to become involved in discovering our ancestry. I have thought of doing that—at least using the “free” initial phase. Then I remember the response which my father gave me when he traced our family tree back to a Jeremiah Ellsworth who fought in the Revolutionary War. When I asked why he did not continue to search and find out if any of our ancestors had come from England he indicated that he did not want to know if we were related to some who came over as escaped convicts. But he went far enough to qualify us for the Sons of the American Revolutionary War.

In the 80-year history of the Patrol, there are many individuals who have contributed to the successful mission of making Ohio a safer place in which to live. There are stories—truly factual and not embellished—of commitment, courage and sacrifice. The core values by which we serve today came out of the manner by which those who have gone before on the path of service actually lived their lives and served the public with honor and dedication. The flag hanging on a mail box might have not been as efficient as the use of radios, cell phones, and dispatchers, but it served its purpose in the early years and gave incentive to develop new and efficient methods of communication. We are where we are today because of what has taken place, and by the individuals who had limited resources by today’s standards and yet accomplished great things. May we never forget to pause, look back and reflect upon what has been done by those who have gone before us, and then give thanks for the foundation they have laid for the operation of the Patrol today.

Reflecting upon the past is important, but there is much to be done in the present with an understanding that what we do today will affect the future. Paul in his admonition declared: “Therefore, since we have such a great heritage, let us lay aside anything which would hinder us from functioning to the best of our ability, and run with perseverance the race which is set before us.” (Hebrews 12:1, with slight Ellsworthian modification) Retirees along with those who have been serving in all the various duties and responsibilities of the daily operation of the Patrol have, and continue to, create the heritage which will be passed on to those who will follow in their footsteps. There is the need to create an atmosphere in the present which will inspire and motivate everyone to seek to do better tomorrow than today. This does not mean that there is no recognition or appreciation for what is done every day across this state by all those who serve in the operation of the Patrol. But it does give the challenge of not resting on good things which have been accomplished rather than pressing forward to achieve greater success, to reach bigger goals.

Every day, in one way or another, we are laying a foundation for the future. The future is composed of what is done today and built upon as we journey into tomorrow. We learn from the past, we plan for the future, but we live in the present. But the present is good because we have a great past, and the future will be even better because of what everyone is doing each day to make Ohio safer for all its citizens.

Just as the quarterback takes the ball in a hand-off from the center and gives it to someone who will run or catch a pass and take it for a touchdown, so we receive the game ball from those who have gone before us and make certain that the right plays are called to get the ball down field for touchdown after touchdown—yes, running up the score every day!

Where will the Patrol be 80 years from now? It will still be at the top of all law enforcement agencies in the entire world because of what you—sworn officers and civilians alike—have done, are doing and will continue to do. But in fulfilling your duties in the Patrol, do not forget your role within the family. Make certain that there is quality time for family activities and do not forget those three important words: “I love you.”

Respectfully,

Richard D. Ellsworth
State Chaplain
155th Academy Class