

# FLYING

Vol. 54 No. 4



# WHEEL

October - December 2016



# PROTECT

Troopers working in small groups with local law enforcement.



#### 4. NEW PROGRAM

PROTECT – or Prolonged Reduction of Threats by Enforcing Criminal Trend – focuses on criminal trends specific to different communities.

#### 6. INTEL UNIT

Analysts of the Ohio State Highway Patrol Hub Intelligence Unit were busier than ever in 2016. The volume of requests was up 70 percent from 2015, reaching 10,000 received requests for the first year ever.

#### 8. 160TH CLASS GRADUATION

After 26 weeks of training, the Patrol's 160th Academy Class graduated on September 30. Sixty-four new troopers joined the sworn ranks.

#### 9. FIRST DIETITIAN

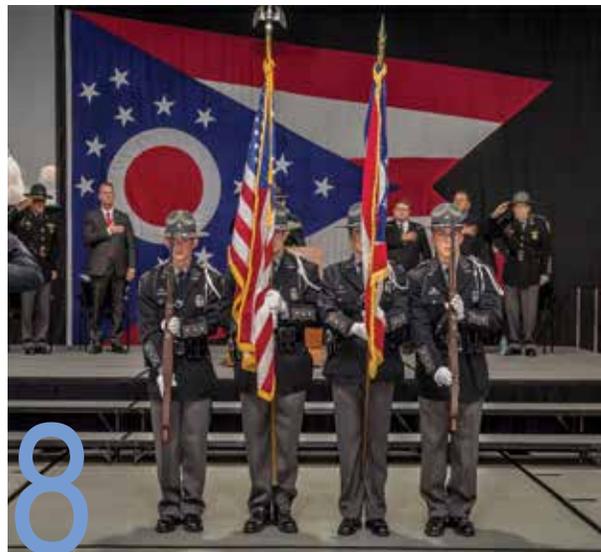
Registered and licensed dietitian Brittany Wrasman will further promote health and wellness of division employees by answering nutrition questions and helping employees meet nutrition goals.

#### 12. OSHP BIRTHDAY

At facilities around the state, employees took a moment to celebrate the Ohio State Highway Patrol's 83rd birthday on November 15.

#### 20. AROUND THE STATE

Traffic safety partnerships, charitable activities, speech details, special events, retiree gatherings and more – see what's happening in your area of the state.



#### ON THE COVER

During a PROTECT detail, troopers work in small groups with community law enforcement agencies. *Please see story on page 4.*



# OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

## *Colonel's Letter*



President Abraham Lincoln once provided profound insight into the reason hard work is worthwhile. He wrote, "It is much for the young to know that treading the hard path of duty... will be noticed, and will lead to high places."

President Lincoln described the hard path of duty as not only the act of putting in effort, but also doing it for the right reasons. It meant working hard to help others, to support your family and to live a life of integrity, no matter how hard it may be. The hard path of duty meant doing what you had to do, not just what you felt like doing.

Members of the Patrol are driven to serve. We understand service is not always convenient, but we continually sacrifice for the greater good. Our personnel volunteering for special details and deployments, working countless hours, and missing holidays with family evidence this. Although it is never easy, and often untimely, service is our life's work.

As the new year gets underway, let us remember the co-workers and friends who stood next to us during a deployment, or the trooper who came to our assistance when we felt our back was against the wall either personally or professionally. We will never forget our friendships. The Patrol family has always supported each other. So, remember those who need support and act on it. A simple visit, card, or call provides a sense of comfort and relief to our family members when they're in need. Let us cherish the memories of our Patrol family who we've lost. We must continue to bring honor to the profession they loved.

The reputation of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is a credit to those who have served, and those who are currently serving. Integrity is a principle the Patrol was founded upon. Integrity is what President Lincoln spoke of: simply doing the right thing, no matter how hard it might be at times Integrity was instilled and demonstrated and lived out in the lives of by the very first troopers who trained at Camp Perry. That same integrity is alive and well in our active members today.

Sometimes our life's work is not easy. It is writing a ticket because a warning will not change the behavior or notifying someone that his or her loved one is gone. It is being called in early, or switching a shift so a co-worker can have the day off. It's a phone call in the middle of the night to come in and fix a radio. It's inspecting trucks and buses in 10-degree weather. Nevertheless, we know this is our calling – our life's work – so we do it anyway.

In 2016, members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol tread the hard path of duty. Your work has been noticed and your work led the Patrol to new heights. We must pause and reflect on 2016 as we turn the page and look toward 2017. We will use our past successes as a springboard into the future. I am extremely thankful for your hard work and contributions. Because of you, our communities and our state is a safer place to live and work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colonel Paul A. Pride".

Colonel Paul A. Pride  
Superintendent





## FEATURE PROGRAM

# PROTECT Detail Underway

Over the last six months, small groups of troopers have partnered with local law enforcement across Ohio for a new Patrol program focused on specific criminal trends in different communities. The program, PROTECT – or Prolonged Reduction of Threats by Enforcing Criminal Trends – lasts eight to 10 weeks and is an enhancement of the Patrol’s SHEILD (Safe Highways Initiative for Effective Law Enforcement and Detection) details.

“The program is designed so you can scale back to fit the need,” said Captain Richard Meadows, who helped design the program.

For example, local authorities may determine they need OVI enforcement for three hours each week on a specific day. A small contingent of troopers will work alongside local law enforcement conducting saturation patrols to find impaired drivers. The next day, a bait car may be needed. Two days later, it may be determined a criminal patrol element is needed, or agents from the Ohio Investigative Unit may conduct compliance checks at liquor

permit premises. When necessary, the Patrol’s Special Response Team may work with the U. S. Marshals Service for warrant round-ups.

“Communities and law enforcement want something more than a short term fix,” Meadows said. “This attacks the criminal activity over a long period of time with constant pressure.”

PROTECT started in Cleveland with a detail from early spring to late summer. Other areas of the state have also utilized PROTECT, including Chillicothe, Athens, Akron and Cincinnati.

“Each week offered something different,” Chillicothe Police Chief Keith Washburn said. “It kept people on their toes.”

During eight weeks in Chillicothe, the detail focused on traffic enforcement, and the next week emphasized criminal patrol, followed by a bait car, warrant round-ups and liquor enforcement.

Washburn explained there were a number of arrests and drug seizures as a result of the PROTECT detail in Chillicothe, including collecting 28 felony warrants. Because it was

not dedicated to one specific crime, he believes it made a big difference and recommends communities to take a look at the program.

“It’s set up for smaller communities like Chillicothe and Ross County, and you cannot beat it,” Washburn said. “It’s not the last time we will use it.”

Meadows also points to working relationships already in place between the Patrol and other agencies, as well as an effort to avoid depleting resources during a PROTECT detail, as reasons for the program’s success.

“We like to justify success by numbers,” Meadows said. “But when you take the drug dealer off the street, his customers don’t get to buy their drugs. When you seize kilos of cocaine, how many people did you keep from getting those drugs? When you take guns off the street, how many lives did you save that day? That’s how we should measure the success. You’re keeping it from the next person and nothing is too small. It’s measured one stop at a time, one seizure at a time.”

# pro•tect *verb*

to keep safe from harm or injury

## CHILLICOTHE

On September 16, the Patrol, Chillicothe Police Department and U.S. Marshals Service conducted a warrant round-up in Ross County and the city of Chillicothe for 28 main targets of interests who were secretly indicted on felony drug charges. Of those indicted, 24 were located and arrested.

## ATHENS

On October 18, the Patrol initiated a traffic stop for speed on U.S. Route 33 eastbound in Athens County. A consent search was conducted and troopers discovered 53 Opana, 57 Oxycodone and 90 Hydrocodone pills.

## CLEVELAND

On October 25, troopers initiated a traffic stop for a lane violation on Interstate 80 in Cuyahoga County. A K9 unit was deployed, which led to a positive indication. A probable cause search resulted in the discovery of 147 grams of cocaine, 78 grams of crack and \$3,037 in currency.

## AKRON

On November 1, the Akron Police Department and the Patrol seized 11 kilos of cocaine after attempting to make a traffic stop. The driver of the vehicle led the authorities on a two-mile chase, crashed into a pole and then took off — jumping off of a 30-foot overpass before he was caught. The cocaine was estimated at 20,000 doses with a street value of approximately \$1 million. The driver faces federal drug charges.

## CINCINNATI

On November 8, troopers assisted the West Chester Police Department with locating and arresting two individuals wanted in a prior abduction of an 11-year-old child and for multiple car thefts in the area. Both were located and taken into custody without incident.



## FEATURE STORY

# Intel Unit Analysts Received Most Requests Ever in 2016

*Analysts of the Ohio State Highway Patrol Hub Intelligence Unit were busier than ever in 2016. The volume of requests was up 70 percent from 2015, reaching 10,000 received requests for the first year ever.*

*Analysts worked on more long-term cases such as homicides, human trafficking, fraud and pharmaceutical crimes this year, according to Lt. Mike Hasson, commander of the Intel Unit. "These issues, coupled with strategic analysis for events like the Republican National Convention, have kept the analysts much busier this year," he said.*

*To handle requests, analysts rely on information from law enforcement databases and internet research, including social media. These stories from 2016 exemplify the talent and commitment of the Intel Unit analysts.*

## January 5, 2016

The Intel Unit was contacted by a sergeant from the Chillicothe Police Department for assistance in locating a homicide suspect. The sergeant provided analysts with the suspect's identifying information and informed them the suspect was actively fleeing and threatening to kill law enforcement.

Analysts initiated a cell phone ping and determined the suspect was in a parking lot in Richmond, Indiana. The analysts continued working with the Chillicothe and Richmond police departments and provided ping location information. Richmond officers located the suspect sitting in a vehicle at the location of the last cell phone ping. When officers approached, he shot and killed himself.

## March 3, 2016

The Intel Unit received a request from a trooper with the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) Chillicothe Post for assistance with a vehicle title investigation. An Ohio resident purchased a 1960 Chevy Corvair from a resident in Kentucky. The seller provided a title that turned out to be fraudulent. The trooper was attempting to identify the seller, but the only information he had was a telephone number and a telephone number for a friend of the seller.

The analyst utilized a telephone number inquiry through social media to identify the seller. The friend's phone number was also linked to the identified seller.

Social media posts from the seller contained several pictures of campers, cars and motorcycles for sale. The information provided by the analyst led to the identification of the seller and assisted to further his investigation.

## March 11, 2016

A detective from the Whitehall Police Department contacted the Intel Unit for assistance with a home invasion robbery case. The detective had developed a main suspect in the case and subpoenaed cell phone records.

The analyst used these records to create maps and charts that showed the suspect's cell phone in the location of the crime. The analyst also used the cell phone data to identify other individuals the suspect communicated with before and after the incident.

## March 13, 2016

A sergeant from the OSHP Findlay Post requested assistance in locating a missing 16-year-old. The sergeant was in contact with the girl's father, who had not seen or heard from his daughter since 11:30 p.m. the night before. The father said he feared his daughter was in danger. His attempts to locate her via the Find My iPhone app were unsuccessful.

The analyst successfully initiated a cell phone ping and relayed the coordinates to the dispatch center. The juvenile was found within 15 minutes of the ping at the location the analyst relayed.

## May 22, 2016

An OSHP trooper contacted the Intel Unit for assistance in locating a motorist with an unresponsive passenger. After obtaining the passenger's phone number, the analyst searched commercial databases to identify the correct cell phone carrier and requested an emergency phone ping to determine their location. Coordinates for the cell phone were relayed to troopers, who located the passenger and provided emergency medical attention. The passenger was found to have experienced an overdose.

## July 7, 2016

The Intel Unit received a request from a Michigan State Police Intel analyst regarding a possible police impersonation offense. A retail fraud offense had occurred at a local police and army supply store. The suspect had contacted the store in advance, claiming to be with the local sheriff's department. The suspect was outfitted with uniforms and other tactical police equipment and identified himself as "Nicholas Douglas" with an Ohio driver license. After the suspect left the store, it was determined the billing account information he provided was fraudulent.

An Intel analyst used a wild card search with the name and an age range provided. The analyst located a result for an individual who had previously impersonated a police officer in Sylvania Township, just south of the Michigan border. A driver license photo and identifiers were sent to the Michigan State Police analyst who confirmed a second offense had occurred within a few days.

## July 15, 2016

The Intel Unit received information from an anonymous caller about a transport truck hauling an Arizona vehicle containing heroin, money and firearms. The caller reported the vehicle would contain hidden compartments. Analysts used the information to create a drug tip bulletin which was disseminated along the route of travel including Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

Shortly after the bulletin was distributed, a sergeant from the Arizona Highway Patrol contacted the Intel Unit with information about the transport vehicle and driver. The same day, a corporal with the Missouri Highway Patrol contacted the Intel Unit after he stopped the vehicle and recovered a large amount of currency during a search. The analyst on duty put the Missouri corporal in touch with the Arizona sergeant so they could share information about the incident.

The next day, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent contacted the Intel Unit to

inform analysts the transport vehicle driver was under investigation by the Homeland Security Investigation office in Phoenix for trafficking currency. Previous incidents included a \$250,000 seizure at John Glenn Columbus International Airport in 2013 and a \$400,000 seizure in Oklahoma.

## July 30, 2016

The Intel Unit received a request from a trooper at the OSHP Xenia Post for help identifying a driver who caused serious damage to a victim's yard. An AutoZone rewards card and a side mirror from the vehicle were recovered from the yard. AutoZone employees worked with the trooper to identify the owner of the rewards card as "Fred G." and provided a phone number. The analyst used databases to research the phone number and determined the suspect's actual name and that he owned a vehicle matching the side mirror recovered from the yard. When the trooper approached the suspect with the evidence, he confessed to the hit-skip.

## August 15, 2016

The OSHP Lebanon Post contacted the Intel Unit for assistance locating a suicidal subject. The subject's wife provided text messages to a dispatcher indicating her husband was planning to commit suicide in a wooded area. The analyst used the provided cell phone number to initiate a cell phone ping. The ping returned to a location in Caesar Creek State Park near the edge of the water.

A sergeant and trooper located the subject's vehicle at the end of an abandoned road. They found the subject walking out of some tall weeds and took him into custody. The subject, who was found with a loaded revolver in his front pocket, was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

## October 14, 2016

A sergeant of the OSHP Wapakoneta Post contacted the Intel Unit for assistance after a suspect shot a pellet gun at a vehicle on Interstate 75. The sergeant requested a bulletin be created about the incident. The analyst created and disseminated a bulletin to law enforcement contacts in the area.

After locating a social media post from the suspect, the analyst sent a copy to the University of Toledo Police Department, which verified the suspect was a student and reported they had dealt with him the previous week on a weapons call in a residence hall. The analyst located a live stream the suspect posted online indicating he had just returned to campus. The University of Toledo police located the suspect, and he was charged for the incident on Interstate 75.

## ACADEMY

# 160th Academy Class Graduation

## 64 New Troopers Join Sworn Ranks

After 26 weeks of intense paramilitary training, the Patrol's 160th Academy Class graduated on September 30. State Senator Larry Obhof, Ohio Senate District 22, provided the keynote address. Additional remarks were provided by Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol Superintendent; Director John Born, Ohio Department of Public Safety; and Captain Arthur J. Combest, Academy Commandant. The Oath of Office was issued by Judge Peter B. Abele, Fourth Appellate District, Ohio Court of Appeals.

Courses completed by the 160th class included core values, crash investigation, criminal and traffic law, detection of impaired drivers, firearms, physical fitness, self-defense, emergency vehicle operations, community-police relations, and de-escalation techniques.

Trooper Ryan N. Miller of Chillicothe, Ohio, was elected as class speaker and thanked the Academy and cadet family members for being supportive during their training.

Three graduates received special honors for top performance at the Training Academy:

- Overall performance – Trooper Scott R. Traver, Canton Post
- Top performance in academics – Trooper Ryan N. Miller, Dayton Post
- Top performance in driving – Trooper Ryan N. Miller, Dayton Post
- Top performance in firearms – Trooper Austin J. Skipper, Cleveland Post
- Top performance in physical fitness – Trooper Scott R. Traver, Canton Post

Each of the graduates reported to their post on October 3. Their first 60 working days were a field-training period under the guidance of a veteran officer. The new graduates were assigned to 29 of the Patrol's 58 posts.



# Introducing Brittany Wrasman to the Academy's Health and Wellness Team

Brittany Wrasman is a registered and licensed dietitian who is now the first dietitian for the Highway Patrol.

Brittany is available in person and over the phone to answer your nutrition-related questions and help you meet your nutrition goals. In addition to consultations, the Patrol will use her knowledge and skills in a number of ways across the state to further promote health and wellness of division employees.

Brittany's primary office is located at the Academy in the Recruitment Section, but she also has a work station in Health and Wellness for those coming in for their physicals. She is available for help with weight control and individualized nutrition counseling. Any division employee seeking dietary

guidance is welcome to contact Brittany at 614-466-4044 or [bwrasman@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:bwrasman@dps.ohio.gov).

Brittany is a 2014 graduate of Miami University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in kinesiology and health. Following graduation, she completed a dietetic internship at Sarasota County Schools Food and Nutrition Services in Sarasota, Florida. Brittany then worked for St. Rita's Medical Center in Lima, Ohio, as an outpatient dietitian.

She provided nutritional advice and educational support to individuals, aided with medically-supervised weight loss, provided nutritional management of diabetes, and provided medical nutrition therapy for specific disease states.



## Instead of Resolutions, Set SMART Goals

By *Brittany Wrasman*

As the year begins, you may find yourself feeling optimistic about the start of a new year. A common theme each year is setting New Year's Resolutions. According to a University of Scranton study, roughly 50 percent of Americans make New Year's Resolutions each year, and out of those individuals, about 8 percent actually achieve their goal.

Before getting discouraged by the lack of success, it's important to add that those who make resolutions are still 10 times more likely to make a successful behavior change compared to those who fail to even establish a resolution. Regardless of whether it's the start of a New Year, or simply a time in your life when you need a change, take the first step towards your behavior change by setting a SMART goal.

Success in achieving resolutions correlates with a person's readiness to change a specific behavior. Included in the top resolutions made each year are health- and wellness-related behaviors such as weight loss, exercise and smoking cessation. With these behaviors being influential on the development of many chronic diseases, it's important to understand how to turn these resolutions into positive lifestyle behaviors. Those who successfully achieve a resolution do three things: recognize the need for change, implement stimulus controlled strategies and believe in their ability to succeed. One way to integrate these strategies is to avoid setting vague resolutions and, instead, create a SMART goal.

Setting a SMART goal requires establishing a **s**pecific, **m** measurable, **a**ttainable, **r**elevant and **t**imely resolution. Simply stating your resolution is "to exercise more" is not SMART.

Creating a more **s**pecific goal requires addressing the six **Ws**: *Who* will be involved? *What* do you want to accomplish? *Where* will the accomplishment take place? *When* do you want to accomplish the goal? *Which* are the requirements and constraints to achieve the goal? *Why* do you want to achieve the goal? After pondering the six **Ws**, the exercise resolution can be modified to: "I will increase my activity level by walking." Once a specific objective is established, tell someone about it to increase your probability of success.

The next step is creating a **m** measurable outcome. Establish tangible criteria for monitoring your progress. In addition, consider the **a**ttainability. Will this goal challenge you without defeating you? The exercise resolution becomes measurable by stating: "I will increase my physical activity level by walking three miles, four days per week."

The fourth component of SMART goal setting is evaluating the **r**elevance of the resolution. Reflect on your purpose or benefit of accomplishing the goal. For example, what would be your reason for exercising more? If the goal is not important to you, you will struggle with sticking to it.

Lastly, set a realistic **t**ime-frame for achieving your goal. Deadlines provide motivation to change, however, keep in mind that change is a process that takes time. "I will increase my physical activity level by walking three miles, four days per week for the next two weeks." At the end of the time-frame, acknowledge your accomplishment or your relapse. Remember, relapse is not a failure. Regardless of the outcome of your goal, take the time to reflect on your plan and reevaluate your SMART goal as needed.

## COMMUNITY

# Memorials for Trooper Velez

*Since the passing of Trooper Kenneth Velez, several events have taken place to honor him and assist his family.*



## September 18

Jennifer Kinsley from the city of Cleveland Prosecutor's Office participated in the 15th Annual Cleveland Heroes Run in honor and memory of Trooper Kenny Velez.

The Heroes Run is a 5K race which honors West Park's fallen police officers and firefighters who gave their lives in the line of duty while either serving the citizens of Cleveland's West Park area or living in the community.

Prosecutor Kinsley obtained a Highway Patrol logo t-shirt and added Trooper Velez's unit number and name to the back for the run.

## September 28

The Vermillion Quaker Steak and Lube hosted a family fundraiser for the family of Trooper Kenneth Velez. Velez's daughter had worked at the restaurant. To honor Trooper Velez and the family, the staff donated 20 percent of all their proceeds to his family.

## October 30

The Lorain County Blue Foundation held a spaghetti dinner and an auction where all proceeds went to the Velez family. The dinner was held at the Spitzer Center on the campus of Lorain County Community College.

The Velez family has also received a great deal of financial support from Bluecoats, Inc., a Cuyahoga County organization "devoted to the well-being of families of Cuyahoga County safety forces who have lost their lives in the line of duty."

The Highway Patrol family is grateful for the many community members who have reached out in this difficult time.

## Former Trooper Louis Sharp Honored



**Former Trooper Louis Sharp was recognized at the Academy** in November for his outstanding service to the citizens of Ohio. In 1955, Mr. Sharp was the first black graduate of the Patrol's Academy with the 44th cadet class. The president of the National Black State Troopers Coalition provided a Resolution with Gratitude and Admiration and two challenge coins to Mr. Sharp, recognizing his "immeasurable hours of preparation, personal sacrifice, incomparable strength... and extraordinary valor."

# Rev's Ride



He set out on September 6, leaving from Central College Presbyterian Church in Westerville. Reverend “Rev” Richard Ellsworth had to make one stop before he truly began his cross country trip — the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy, to see the cadets. Then he was off, heading west.

Rev was on a journey in honor of his friend, retired Sergeant Robert Gochoel. Members of his church pledged money for each mile he completed, to be donated to the family of Sgt. Gochoel to help with medical expenses.

“It’s something I have always wanted to do,” Rev said.

For the first leg of his trip, Rev rode his Harley Davidson Tri-Glide west from Columbus to San Luis Obispo, Calif. As a young man, he spent about four months at Camp San Luis Obispo for amphibious training leading up to his deployment to Europe in WWII. The second leg of his trip would take him to Nags Head, N.C., and then back home. As Rev started out on Interstate 70, three troopers escorted him to the Indiana line. There, two Indiana State Police officers escorted him across the Hoosier state.

Rev said the second day of the trip was his biggest challenge. It was raining. He could have stayed in Kansas City, but he opted to put on the rain gear and continue west, fighting rain and traffic in an unfamiliar city.

Through the sun, fog and changing weather conditions, Rev made it to Camp San Luis Obispo on September 12. He was greeted by the commander of the base who took Rev on a tour. Then, Rev got back on his Tri-Glide and headed east.

Rev was in Tulsa when he heard Trooper Kenneth Velez had been killed in the line of duty. Rev knew he had to be with his Patrol family. He postponed the eastern portion of his trip and instead headed home.

On October 29, Rev set out on the second leg of his sea-to-sea tour. Since Hurricane Matthew had been through the area days before, he called his hotel in Nags Head to make sure it was open. He received the all clear, and two days later, his journey was complete.

“Ninety-plus years-old, and I can still do some things,” Rev said with a laugh.

All told, Rev traveled 6,603 miles over 17 days. Several groups of people tracked his every move, and he’s grateful for their efforts. Rev is also thankful for the support of Centennial Harley Davidson in Pataskala for making sure his Tri-Glide had proper maintenance before and after his trips.

## LAMAR Advertising, PNC Bank Receive Partners for Safety Awards

The Ohio State Highway Patrol presented Lamar Advertising of Youngstown and PNC Bank with Partners for Safety Awards during separate awards presentations in November.

Ohio Department of Public Safety Director John Born and Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Teaford, Assistant Superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, expressed gratitude for their support before presenting the awards to PNC Bank Northern Ohio Regional President Paul Clark and Lamar Advertising Vice President and General Manager Bob Schneider.

Lamar Advertising received the award for its partnership with the Patrol on education campaigns on billboards across the state, which shows a commitment to public safety and dedication to raising public awareness of traffic safety issues. PNC Bank was recognized for its commitment to the success of law enforcement operations during the 2016 Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Patrol’s Partners for Safety Award recognizes local level partnerships that aid in the development of community groups, health and safety organizations, law enforcement agencies, schools, and state and local programs, to increase the overall safety in Ohio.

Previous Award recipients include Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc., Pizza Hut, the American Motorcyclist Association, AK Steel, the Cincinnati Bengals, the University of Cincinnati Bearcats, and Mid-Ohio School.

# OSHP Celebrates 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

*Commanding officers at each facility delivered this message from Colonel Pride in recognition of the Ohio State Highway Patrol's 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday — November 15, 2016.*

Generations of men and women have demonstrated their commitment to making our state safer since the Ohio State Highway Patrol was created on November 15, 1933. It is fitting that we commemorate the birthday of our agency in memory of the first individuals who served for the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

We are fiercely proud of our history of excellence, and with just cause. The foundation of our Patrol was built upon unwavering commitment to service of others, and this formula for success is simple and unchanged. It depends on inspired individuals motivated to protect others. The graduates of the first academy class left Camp Perry 83 years ago, and their work ethic continues in those serving Ohio today.

Today, we reflect as an organization. We want to express our gratitude to all of our retirees for their sacrifices, as we strive to meet their mark. It is the sense of pride and honor portrayed by our retirees that drew many of us to the Patrol.

We admire our active members for making the commitment to the service of protecting others, and for recognizing the work you do is something larger than yourselves.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to our families for the difficulties they endure, which comes with being a part of the Patrol family.

We offer our prayers and never-ending support to the families who have lost loved ones during their noble service with the Patrol. We may never fully know the pain of their heartache. But we want them to know their sacrifice and the sacrifices of their loved ones will always be remembered and respected.

It is imperative we focus on what is at stake. Our goal is not about an obscure number – it is about saving lives one traffic stop at a time.

The influence of the Highway Patrol in our communities is real, it is measureable, and it can be healing. We need to encourage one another to be purposeful and to look for opportunities to have a positive impact on those we meet on a daily basis. Remember that our presence gives us an opportunity to serve.

Happy 83<sup>rd</sup> Birthday to our Ohio State Highway Patrol!

Noblesse Oblige



Colonel Paul A. Pride  
Superintendent



**Wapakoneta Post**

Staff and retirees of the Wapakoneta Post gathered in November to celebrate the Patrol's birthday. Those in attendance include Retired Captain Dan Lay, Retired Sergeant Tom Brookhart, and retired dispatcher Barb Kill, Kathy Lattimer and Millie Hershberger. Also in attendance were Lt. Scott Carrico, Sgt. Kristi Bennett, Sgt. John Westerfield, MCEI John Rammel, ET2 Mike Lahmon, AP1 Dawn Heppard and Trooper Wes Ditto.



**Delaware Post**

The Delaware Post celebrated the Patrol's 83rd birthday with Retired Sgt. John "Jack" F. Cianflona, from the 35th Academy Class class with the newest troop from the 160th Academy Class, Trooper Darius Patterson.



GHQ



Delaware Post



GHQ



GHQ

## CRIMINAL PATROL

### Troopers seize 200 pounds of marijuana in Preble County traffic stop

**November 22:** A California woman is facing felony drug charges after Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers seized 200 pounds of marijuana, worth approximately \$1 million following a traffic stop in Preble County. At 2:56 p.m., troopers stopped a 2005 Ford F-250 pick-up truck for impeding traffic on Interstate 70. Troopers observed criminal indicators and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed the contraband.



### Troopers seize 263 pounds of marijuana in Wood County traffic stop

**November 7:** A man is facing felony drug charges after Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers seized marijuana valued at approximately \$596,484 following a traffic stop in Wood County. At 12:31 p.m., troopers stopped a rented 2016 Chevrolet Suburban for driving in marked lane violation on Interstate 80. Troopers observed criminal indicators and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed the contraband.



### Troopers find illegally imported furs worth \$2 million in Wood County traffic stop

**October 26:** Troopers stopped a 2016 Chevrolet Express van for speeding in a construction zone on Interstate 80 westbound in Wood County at 3:13 p.m. Troopers observed large boxes located in the cargo area in plain view. Consent to view the items was asked for and granted. Troopers discovered 11 boxes containing 452 furs. U.S. Customs confirmed the furs were illegally imported.



### Troopers discover fraudulent World Series tickets

**November 2:** Two men are facing felony charges after Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers located fraudulent World Series tickets in a vehicle during a traffic stop in Wood County. Troopers stopped a 2015 Chevrolet Impala for a lane change violation on Interstate 80 at 9:31 a.m. Criminal indicators were observed and a consent search revealed World Series Game 7 tickets that appeared to be fraudulent. The tickets were confirmed to be fraudulent with an approximate value of over \$4,000.



### Troopers find cocaine and heroin in Scioto County traffic stop

**October 13:** Troopers discovered more than 10 grams of suspected cocaine and more than 10 grams of suspected heroin, worth \$2,870, during a traffic stop in Scioto County. The vehicle, a 2006 Toyota Corolla, was stopped for following too closely and headlight violations on U.S. 23 southbound in Scioto County at 3:15 a.m. Troopers observed criminal indicators and a consent to search was requested and granted, leading to the discovery of the contraband.



OIU

# Mone Named National Liquor Law Enforcement Agent of the Year

Ohio Investigative Unit Agent Daniel Mone was honored by the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA) with the NLLEA Liquor Agent of the Year Award. The award was presented to Agent Mone on September 9, at the NLLEA Conference Awards Luncheon in Indianapolis.

Agent Mone was awarded this honor for his commitment to public safety. He has been involved in several life-saving incidents, including one in March when he jumped an interstate barrier and stopped a drunk, wrong-way driver. The vehicle was traveling westbound in the eastbound lanes of Interstate 480 in Cleveland and made impact with two vehicles.

The wrong-way driver attempted to continue on, however Agent Mone pulled the driver from the vehicle to keep him from going further. The occupants in the other vehicles suffered injuries, none of which were life threatening.

Agent Mone has been instrumental in improving working relationships with multiple law enforcement agencies within the Cleveland area.

Earlier this year, Agent Mone also received the Patrol's Agent of the Year Award. Mone served in the United States Marine Corps from 2004 to 2010.

## Croft Elected to National Board of Directors

Cleveland Agent-in-Charge Gregory Croft was recently elected to the position of Sergeant-at-Arms for the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA).

NLLEA has approximately 1,100 member agencies throughout the United States and is a non-profit association of law enforcement personnel dedicated to the enforcement of liquor laws and regulations. In 2012, Enforcement Commander Richard Cologie was elected president of the organization.

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## VEHICLE THEFT AND FRAUD UNIT

# Patrol, BMV Investigation on Car Dealer Leads to Indictment on 71 Felony Counts

A partnership between the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) led to the 71-count indictment of a man who committed fraud at his car lot in Canfield, Ohio.

The investigation was opened on March 31, 2015, after the Youngstown BMV and Canfield Police Department received complaints by community members about Joseph Reinthaler Jr, of Reinthaler Auto Village. After the size of the case became clear, investigators at the BMV contacted the OSHP vehicle theft unit in Warren to begin the joint-investigation.

At his car lot in Canfield, Mr. Reinthaler promised customers he would pay off the lien on their vehicles, but instead forged lien releases to obtain fraudulent Ohio

Certificate of Titles. Hundreds of cars were resold in the process, and investigators tracked fraudulent lien documents as far back as 2012.

Mr. Reinthaler was indicted on 69 counts of tampering with records, all third degree felonies, one fifth degree felony count of forgery and one first degree felony count of engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity. A warrant for his arrest was issued in April 2016 following the indictment.

This successful investigation is also in thanks to the work of the Canfield Police Department, Boardman Police Department, Youngstown Prosecutor's Office and Ohio Attorney General Office.

## CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

On February 20, 2016, **Police Officer 2 Joshua E. Wayt**, was installing a car stereo system at a friend's auto personalization business while off-duty, when he heard shouting for help from inside a nearby bay. He ran inside and found the victim, Chris Cannon, on the floor, not breathing and without a pulse. Officer Wayt immediately began CPR until the Blendon Township Police Department arrived. Upon their arrival, the medics took over resuscitation and administered an AED prior to rushing him to St. Ann's Hospital. Although alive, Mr. Cannon was very weak and placed into a medically-induced coma for two weeks. While in the coma, Mr. Cannon's lung collapsed and he developed pneumonia. During this time, Mr. Cannon's family requested to meet Officer Wayt, thanked him, and provided him with medical status updates on Mr. Cannon. After five weeks in the hospital, Mr. Cannon was released, placed on bed rest for a month, and, in late May, returned to work on a part-time basis. For his lifesaving actions, Police Officer Wayt was awarded a Certificate of Recognition.



Joshua E. Wayt

On July 18, 2016, **Trooper Kenneth M. Robbins** was investigating a one-vehicle crash and was outside of his patrol car, between a cement barrier and a tow truck. As he was returning to his cruiser, Trooper Robbins heard tires screeching and saw an out-of-control truck traveling towards his patrol car. He immediately warned the tow truck driver and instinctively started running towards him. With no regard for his own safety, and nowhere to go due to the cement divider, he pushed the tow truck driver out of the way of the oncoming vehicle. Trooper Robbins was struck by his cruiser as he was running and knocked to the ground. Although the tow truck driver was also struck by the patrol car, his injuries were largely mitigated as a result of Trooper Robbins' selfless actions. The tow truck driver was treated and released at the scene. Trooper Robbins, however, was transported to St. Elizabeth's Hospital where he was treated for contusions, lacerations, and abrasions to his leg and both hands. For his lifesaving actions, Trooper Robbins was awarded a Certificate of Recognition.



Kenneth M. Robbins

On July 21, 2016, **Trooper Dustin R. Hamilton** was dispatched to a reckless operation call for a vehicle that was southbound on US 250 in Erie County. Trooper Hamilton responded to the area and located the vehicle which was stopped along the berm. Trooper Hamilton approached the vehicle and observed the driver was unresponsive. When he was unable to gain the driver's attention, he broke the driver's side window, reached through the broken glass, and unlocked the door. He immediately checked the driver's vitals and was unable to detect a pulse. Trooper Hamilton removed the driver from the vehicle and advised dispatch that EMS was needed. As he began administering CPR, two nurses stopped to assist. While Trooper Hamilton administered chest compressions, the nurses monitored the driver's vital signs and eventually detected a faint pulse. Upon their arrival, EMS administered two doses of NARCAN to the driver. Shortly thereafter, the driver regained consciousness and was transported to the hospital for further treatment. For his lifesaving actions, Trooper Hamilton was awarded a Certificate of Recognition.



Dustin R. Hamilton

On August 19, 2016, **Trooper Damion D. Assink** investigated a one-vehicle crash in Saybrook Township. During the investigation, he arrested a male subject who responded to the scene of a crash involving his son. When the male subject was secured in the cruiser, Trooper Assink noticed the subject's skin color and behavior was abnormal. The subject declined medical assistance and was transported to the Ashtabula Post for processing. During this time the subject became unresponsive. Trooper Assink immediately pulled into a parking lot and requested EMS. Trooper Assink removed the subject from the back seat of the cruiser, placed him on the ground, and began chest compressions. The subject began to breathe again and Trooper Assink monitored his vitals until the Saybrook Township EMS arrived at the scene and transported him to the hospital for further treatment. For his lifesaving actions, Trooper Assink was awarded a Certificate of Recognition.



Damion D. Assink

# CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION



David L. Dylag



Corey D. Resendez



Jennifer L. Beuck

On July 22, 2016, the Sandusky Dispatch Center received a call from Ms. Tammy Sayers reporting a male subject was dangling his legs over the side of the overpass at US 20 and SR 511. Dispatcher Jennifer L. Beuck immediately dispatched Sergeant David L. Dylag and Trooper Corey D. Resendez and continued to give the officers updates as they responded to the scene. When Trooper Resendez and Sergeant Dylag arrived at the scene, they approached the subject and engaged him in conversation. When a commercial truck drove under the bridge, the distraught subject turned away and leaned over in the direction of the passing truck. As this was taking place, Trooper Resendez grabbed him, and with the assistance of Sergeant Dylag, safely secured him. The subject was transported by EMS to a local hospital for further evaluation. For their lifesaving actions, Dispatcher Beuck, Sergeant Dylag and Trooper Resendez were awarded Certificates of Recognition.

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Ohio State Highway Patrol



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The Patrol honored several employees for their work leading up to and during the 2016 Republican National Convention in Cleveland. From left: Lt. Colonel Kevin Teaford; Major Chad McGinty; AP4 Patricia A. Hughes, Cleveland; Holly Welch, DPS Legal; Infrastructure Specialist Franklin P. Laney, Bucyrus; Staff Lt. Eric R. Sheppard, Cleveland; and Major Michael Black.

## Auxiliary Graduates Largest Training Class in a Decade



The Ohio State Highway Patrol's Auxiliary program appointed 23 new volunteers at a graduation ceremony in August at the Patrol's Training Academy. This was the largest Auxiliary training class in the last decade. The class graduated after nearly 80 hours of law enforcement training including firearms familiarization, traffic and criminal laws, self-defense and assisting with crash investigations. Graduates will assist troopers at crash scenes and traffic stops, with traffic control and disaster relief as well as with special detail support. Each member is required to volunteer a minimum of 120 hours per year to remain active.

### Auxiliary Graduates and Post Assignments

Ali Alqazzaz, Columbus, Post 21  
 Rick Casto, Lancaster, Post 23  
 Mike Crawford, Pickerington, Post 45  
 Joshua Fenton, Butler, Post 70  
 Rodney Gardner, Cincinnati, Post 31  
 Paul Gillum, Ray, Ohio, Post 40  
 Garrett Gray, Martin, Post 17  
 Louie Hamed, New Albany, Post 45

Eric Heller, Tuscarawas, Post 79  
 Ashley Keenan, Akron, Post 76  
 Gary Lehman, Westerville, Post 21  
 Todd McCormick, Mineral Ridge, Post 79  
 Bruce Parson, Strongsville, Post 52  
 Brian Paszczykowski, Holland, Post 32  
 Christe Patt, New Richmond, Post 13  
 Andrew Rife, Thornville, Post 23

Scott Ryan, Columbus, Post 21  
 Gabe Saa, Galena, Post 21  
 Michael Shuler, Middletown, Post 57  
 Keith Swigart, Dublin, Post 21  
 Dexter Vaughan, Macedonia, Post 18  
 Christian Walser, Glenford, Post 45  
 Peggy White, Columbus, Post 65

### Auxiliary to Host 75th Anniversary Dinner on February 25, 2017

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary, formed at the beginning of World War II, celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2017. Organized by Colonel Lynn Black with the help of the American Legion, the Auxiliary has a long, proud history dating back almost as long as the Patrol itself.

To celebrate this milestone, the Auxiliary is hosting a 75th anniversary dinner on Saturday, February 25, 2017, at the Nationwide Hotel & Conference Center in Lewis Center. The dinner will start at 6 p.m., and all current and retired Patrol, Auxiliary and American Legion personnel and family members are invited.

Tickets are \$38 per dinner and may be purchased by mailing a check made out to the OSHP Auxiliary to Aux. Lt. Colonel Sanford, OSHP Auxiliary, c/o the OSHP Training Academy, 740 E 17th Ave, Columbus, OH 43211.

# Thank Yous

## A sampling of messages received or through social media and mail

A HUGE thank you to the trooper who not only changed my tire, he also showed me how to change it. He not only saved me \$70 that it would've cost to have a tow company come out, but he saved me over an hour that it was going to take them to get to me and I was still able to get to work. Thank you SO much!! I can't tell you how much I appreciated this!

...

I hit a deer on the way to work early this morning on (Interstate) 71 south in Richland County. The trooper who responded made sure I was okay, then put me in his front seat to warm up. He stayed to make sure the tow truck was coming, then when the call was cancelled, came back and stayed until the tow truck came. I feel much safer driving on the interstate knowing kind and caring folks are out there like Trooper Robles.

...

So today I was traveling in my semi down U.S. Route 127 in Preble County, south of Camden. A trooper pulled me over for speeding. Although I did get a ticket, Trooper A. Spitler treated me with the utmost respect, more than any law officer has before. Thank you ma'am for your kindness this morning.

...

I had a privilege of meeting two troopers yesterday afternoon on Interstate 675 - just south of Interstate 70. It was after a motorcycle rider was struck by a part of an unsecured load from a semi-truck. The rookie (trooper) and his training officer were great. I was very impressed with the professionalism and attention to detail the rookie showed. I asked him if he had just graduated and he very proudly told me he just graduated from the spring class. I gave my statement and was on my way very quickly. Thank you troopers for all you do.

...

I was recently on the side of the road with car trouble when a trooper came to the rescue like "rescue heroes" always do. My 7-year-old was nervous because his lights were on behind us. The trooper assured my son that he was checking on us to make sure we were okay and to see if we could use his help. Thank you Patrolmen!

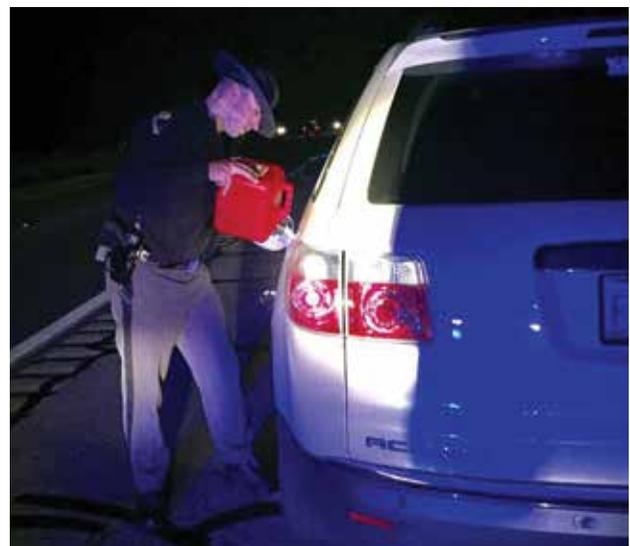
...

To the state trooper from the Piqua Post who stopped to help my son on northbound Interstate 75 this morning - thank you! His truck broke down and a trooper stopped to offer him a ride to Piqua. My son called to tell me he took his first ride in the back of a cruiser! Thank you for helping him out!

Kudos to the state trooper that went above and beyond today in Rootstown, Ohio. Today on State Route 44 and Lynn Road, a van had broken down with their flashers on. Numerous people passed without stopping to help. A state trooper showed up behind her with his lights on, got out, assessed the situation and then proceeded to push her van by himself into a gas station. Super awesome of him and super awesome for me to witness!!!

...

Trooper Jonathan M. Drake of the Wilmington Post made the day of a woman and her two daughters, whose vehicle ran out of gas on Interstate 71. The family was 1 1/2 hours away from home, and it was getting dark. The family called 911, however the responding agency was unable to respond, so they contacted the Patrol. The mother wrote, "The Patrol graciously took the call and Trooper Drake came to our rescue! He was so kind and genuinely concerned for myself and my two daughters' well-being." He took them to the gas station and back to the vehicle. Once gas was in the car, Trooper Drake hooked-up jumper cables to the car since the battery had died. The mom stated, "I want to publicly thank Trooper Drake! If this post ever makes it to him at the Ohio State Highway Patrol...my 6-year-old said it was the most awesome day of her life! She loved riding in the back of your car! Myself, my husband and my daughters thank you for your service and we will never forget the sacrifices you make every day, while leaving your own family to help guard and protect OURS!"



## Fremont



**Trooper Mark Sorg and his grandfather WWII Veteran Russell Sorg** took part in a Veterans Day Celebration at the Fremont Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. Sgt. Mike Walter, and troopers James VanCamp, Don Pratt, Kyle Mayle Jr. and Ethan Branham were also in attendance.

## Norwalk



**Trooper Sarah Frey** worked a booth at the Fall Festival at Norwalk Middle School.

## Canfield



**Trooper David Brown** (far right) organized an opportunity for local youth to attend an YSU Football game on October 29. Several kids stood on the sideline to watch the game. The Mahoning County Sheriff's Office and Youngstown Police Department also contributed to the event.

## Cincinnati



Trooper Steve Ilo arranged to meet with an Indiana and a Kentucky state trooper to take photos with an Oregon State Police Challenge coin to support the memory and family of Oregon State Trooper Gregory Walker, who recently lost his battle with cancer. Troopers are passing the challenge coin across the country to be photographed with a state trooper from each state.

## Canton



**Canton Post personnel** Trooper John Nemastil, Trooper Evan Hill, Dispatcher Amanda Hermann, AP1 Linda Barnes, and North Canton Police Officer Mark Johnson coordinated and participated in a food drive on November 19 at the Acme Fresh Market in North Canton. Even with inclement weather, everyone showed up eager to help collect food for the citizens of Stark County and the Stark County Hunger Task Force. With the generosity of local shoppers, 2,450 pounds of food was collected along with \$934 cash to help others during this holiday season.

## Batavia

**Retired members of the Patrol** attended the Clermont County Retirees cookout in August. The yearly event is hosted by Owensville Police Chief Mike Freeman. Those in attendance included: retired Lt. Gary Cunningham, retired Trooper Bob Montgomery, retired Trooper Bill Baugus, retiree Bruce Brockman, retired HPRD Martha Woodruff and Lt. Wayne Price. Also, in attendance were retired Lt. Allen Hayes from Sharonville Police Department, retired deputies Tom Cooper and Greg Hensley from Clermont County Sheriff's Office. Each began their law enforcement careers at the Batavia Post.



## Cleveland



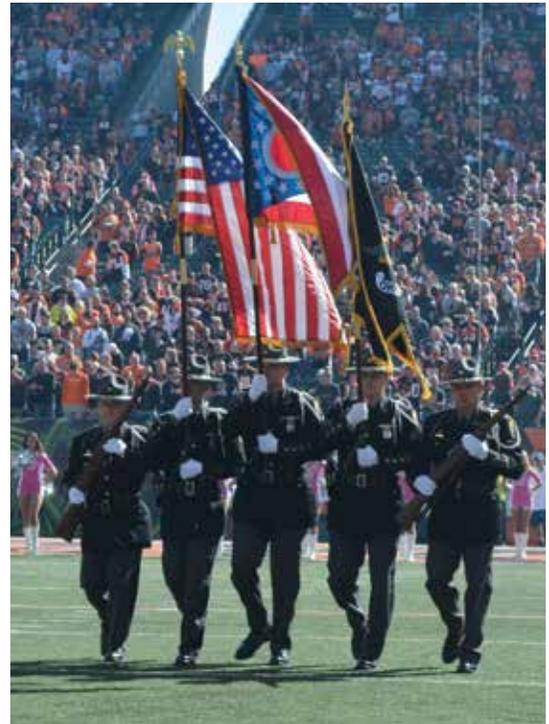
**Trooper Juan "Ray" Santiago** purchased backpacks and school supplies for the Lorain Boys and Girls Club, and he and Trooper Dorothy Ettel distributed them in October.

## New Philadelphia



**The Warther Museum in Dover** held a "Trunk or Treat" event for children on October 30. Trooper Jennifer Widuck and officers from the Dover Police Department gave candy to the children. It was a great opportunity for officers and children to interact. This mini-trooper poses with Trooper Widuck and her patrol car.

## Honor Guard



**Members of the Patrol's Honor Guard** presented the colors before the Cleveland Browns and Cincinnati Bengals game at Paul Brown Stadium in September.

**Edward M. Crispen**

Captain Edward M. Crispen, Licensing and Commercial Standards, retired on August 26, 2016, after 23 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 Chillicothe Post.



In 2000, he transferred to the Patrol's Training Academy where he served as an instructor. Later that year, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and returned to Chillicothe to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2003, he returned to the Training Academy. In 2006 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Portsmouth Post to serve as commander. In 2010, he transferred to Chillicothe.

In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Patrol's Training Academy. In 2013, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the Office of Personnel. In 2014, he transferred to his most recent assignment in the Office of Field Operations, Licensing and Commercial Standards.

Captain Crispen earned an Associate of Applied Science in law enforcement in 1996, a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, and a Master of Public Administration in 2016 from Ohio University.

**Morris L. Hill**

Staff Lieutenant Morris L. Hill, Bucyrus District Headquarters, retired on October 3, 2016 after 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 1987 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Canfield Post. He became a member of the 117th Academy Class in March 1988. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Mansfield Post, where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1991.



In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Bucyrus Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2001, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and remained at the Bucyrus Post to serve as commander. In 2009, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to Bucyrus District Headquarters to serve as an assistant district commander.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Thiel College in 1987. He completed training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2003.

**Terrance A. Duerr**

Sergeant Terrance A. Duerr, Ravenna Post, retired on October 7, 2016, after 37 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 Lima Post. He was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year in 1985. In 1986, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Fremont Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1990, he transferred to his most recent assignment at the Ravenna Post.



**Darren B. Fussner**

Sergeant Darren B. Fussner, Xenia Post, retired on October 18, 2016, after 31 years with the Patrol. He began his Patrol career in June 1985 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Dayton Post. He began training as a member of the 116th Academy Class in April 1987.



He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the West Jefferson Post. As a trooper, he served at the Dayton, Xenia, and Eaton posts, Wilmington District Headquarters, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit and Piqua District Criminal Patrol. He earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement twice and was selected as Dayton Post Trooper of the Year in 1992.

**Joel E. Armstrong**

Trooper Joel E. Armstrong, Ashland Post, retired on October 21, 2016, after 27 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1989 as a member of the 118th Academy Class.



He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Bucyrus Post. As a trooper, he has served at the Mansfield, Ashland and Wooster posts, as well as the Cleveland and Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Units.

**Steven T. Circle**

Trooper Steven T. Circle, Gallipolis Post, retired on November 4, 2016, after 33 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol as a cadet dispatcher at the Ironton Post. He began training as a member of the 113th Academy Class in April 1984. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Circleville Post. As a trooper, he has served at the Gallipolis Post, Jackson District Headquarters and Jackson District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 1989, he was selected as Gallipolis Post Trooper of the Year.



**Marion L. Stout**

Dispatcher Marion L. Stout, Columbus Communications Center, retired on November 11, 2016, after 24 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a dispatcher and has been assigned to the Columbus Communication Center throughout her career.



**Edward G. Smith**

Electronic Technician 3 Edward G. Smith, Cleveland District Headquarters, retired on November 1, 2016, after 16 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in November 1999 and has been assigned to the Cleveland District Headquarters throughout his career.



**Lori K. Welsh-Arbogast**

Dispatcher Lori K. Welsh-Arbogast, West Jefferson Dispatch Center, retired on November 30, 2016, after 30 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in November 1986 at the Delaware Post, where she was selected as Dispatcher of Year in 1988. In 1993, she transferred to Marysville where she was selected as Dispatcher of the Year in 1994. She transferred to her most recent assignment in 2011.



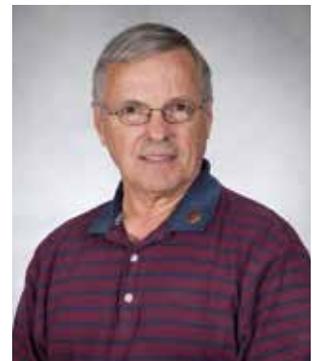
**Pamela J. Hershberger**

Dispatcher Pamela J. Hershberger, Bucyrus Dispatch Center, entered disability retirement on July 29, 2016, after 26 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in May 1989 at the former Bellefontaine Post. In 1992, she transferred to the Marysville Post. In 2003, she transferred to the Marion Post. In 2008, she transferred to her most recent assignment.



**Donald W. Root**

Researcher 2 Donald W. Root Jr., Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU), retired on December 30, 2016. He began his career as a data systems coordinator in 2003. He was promoted to a management analyst supervisor in 2007 and became a Researcher 2 in 2013. Researcher Root graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in computer science and holds an MBA from Franklin University.



**Diane Holubeck**

Dispatcher Diane Holubeck, St. Clairsville Dispatch Center, retired on October 28, 2016, after 28 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in June 1988 and has been assigned to the St. Clairsville throughout her career.



**James M. Stetz**

Motor Vehicle Inspector James M. Stetz, Cleveland District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on August 31, 2016, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 1991 as a driver license examiner. As a motor vehicle inspector, he also served at the Warren District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



# Charles Derek Roberts

Ohio Investigative Unit Enforcement Agent Charles Derek Roberts, 49, of Columbus, died while off-duty on November 24. A viewing was held on December 2 at the St. Philip Episcopal Church in Columbus, where fellow agents stood watch as hundreds of mourners passed through to pay their respects.

The funeral was held December 3 at St. Philip Episcopal Church. Approximately 250 friends, family and coworkers filled the sanctuary for a celebration of Roberts' life. The funeral procession wended through the streets of Columbus to Green Lawn Cemetery, as law enforcement vehicles flashed their blue lights in honor of Roberts. Agents stood at attention as the family was presented with a flag, a bugler played *Taps* and a bagpiper played *Going Home* and *Amazing Grace*.

Roberts was a devoted father to his daughter, Kennedy, and could often be found cheering her on or coaching her in basketball or track. Roberts loved his family — Kennedy, his parents, a sister, two brothers and several nieces and nephews.

He began his career as a liquor agent in 1990. He was assigned to the Cleveland office, however he worked most of his career out of the Columbus District Office and OIU's Central Office conducting food stamp, illegal boot joint and liquor investigations. He served as OIU's liaison to both the Columbus Vice Squad and to the Ohio Liquor Control Commission.

He graduated from South High School in Columbus in 1985, where he was a standout three-sport athlete, and from Kent State University where he was a member of the Golden Flashes football team and earned a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice. He was active in his church enjoyed playing softball and basketball, and coached football and track and field.

Roberts was well liked by his peers. For many years, he assisted with Cops and Kids Day in Canal Winchester and participated with fellow agents in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics.



## Coworkers Recall 'Friend and Brother'

Charles Derek Roberts was known to almost everyone he worked with as Derek, D or Big D, but mostly as a friend and brother. Roberts would often call friends to check on them, wish them happy birthday or send them funny text messages just in case they were having a bad day.

"If he met you and he liked you, he treated you like a brother," said Enforcement Agent Mike Betts.

Betts and Roberts first met at South High School in Columbus during Betts' freshman and Roberts' junior years. Betts remembers well when Roberts — who, at over-6 feet tall, towered over Betts' 5-foot-2 stature — stuck out his hand with a huge grin. "He was monumental, and he made me feel welcome," Betts said.

Years later in Cleveland, they were reunited as OIU partners. They both returned to Columbus and continued to work closely together.

"I called him a brother because that's what he was. Not just because he's a cop, but because he was a life-long friend," Betts said.

Roberts and Enforcement Agent Phillip Williams grew up in the same neighborhood. They didn't know each other as kids, but their family members were classmates. Williams would end up becoming Roberts' last partner, when they began working food stamp cases together, and their friendship extended beyond work.

Every Father's Day, Roberts and Williams took their dads fishing on Lake Erie. One time Williams took Roberts deer hunting. Williams said he gave Roberts his

father's gear and told him to sit in the deer stand for an hour or two. After hours of wondering why he could find no deer in the area, the sun came up and Williams saw Roberts just wandering around, noisily.

"Even though the hunting didn't work out, it was about being with him and how he made you feel," Williams said. "He was like that at work too. For stress relief, he's the kind of guy you wanted sitting in the car with you."

Enforcement Agent James Hahn first met Roberts when Hahn was a Highway Patrol police officer at the Statehouse. They met in the cafeteria.

"He asked me if I protected his lunch," Hahn said. "He was always joking and making me laugh."

Throughout the years, Hahn and Roberts shared a lot together, from personal ups and downs to plans for retirement. They often talked about one another's children.

"Kennedi was his world," Hahn said of Roberts' only child. "He always had something to talk about — what she had done at school or how much he enjoyed watching and coaching her in both basketball and track."

Hahn also said Roberts loved teaching karate to the children at his church, especially those without fathers in their lives. He gave them the attention that many of these children did not have.

"Big D gave me inspiration and advice on my home life and was always there for me when times were hard," Hahn said. "He always made me laugh. Derek will have that special spot in my heart and he will be greatly missed."

# OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

## Chaplain's Comments



Very shortly after beginning my ministry at Central College Church back in November 1958, I learned that Billy Graham was coming to Columbus for a Crusade. Almost everyone in the congregation was excited, and his ministry was the topic of conversation wherever I went with the usual comment, "Rev, isn't Dr. Graham wonderful? I can't wait to hear him." Such an outpouring of love and admiration for Billy Graham was just what I needed—particularly after trying to preach effectively myself.

As if that were not enough to challenge my role as pastor, I was informed that a previous pastor was being invited back to lead a men's retreat. The comment was, "We didn't think you would care, Rev. George is really great and you will come to admire him." What a glorious beginning to my ministry. All I had to do was become a Billy Graham and a Dr. George!

It was, of course, my great wife Linda who lifted me out of the depth of despair with the simple statement: "Dick, you are not Billy Graham nor Dr. George. You are you. Be your authentic self."

How important it is to be authentic and not try to become what you may think others want you to be. There is a saying I have come to embrace: *I am not who you think I am, I am not who I think I am. I tend to become what I think YOU think I am.* Tragically, that all too often is the case.

Go with me to the story of a shepherd boy named David as it is recorded in the 17th chapter of First Samuel. David is fresh from his role as a shepherd out in the field taking care of the family's sheep. He is the youngest boy in the family with no military experience. As he brings food to his brothers who are in service to King Saul, David discovers the battle between the Israelites and the Philistines had come to a halt because of a challenger named Goliath. Now Goliath was a mere 9 feet tall, wore a coat of armor that weighed only 160 pounds and carried a spear, the head of which was only 20 pounds.

For obvious reasons, no Israelite soldier volunteered to meet Goliath in battle. No one, that is, until David appeared.

But notice how he appeared. To his brothers, he was a mere lad who should go back home and mind the sheep. To King Saul, he appeared to be an only hope, and the King gave David his own armor so he could at least look the part of a warrior.

But David became himself—not what his brothers or King Saul thought he should be. David was authentic as a person of God. He shed the armor, took five smooth stones with his sling shot, and went out to defeat the giant Goliath.

This does not mean we are to refuse to try and please others, or learn from others. But it is a reminder of the importance of becoming who we are as children of God and using our God-given talents to fulfill our mission in life. Each person is different and each person has a mission to fulfill. Together we can accomplish great things when we combine our talents. There can be no better mission for us in the Patrol family than to make Ohio a safer place and strive to make life better for others by putting service above self.

By the way, Dr. George and I became the best of friends, and I had the joy and honor of being on the platform and offering the prayer at one of Dr. Graham's crusades. It happened because I decided it worked better when I learned to accept who I was and sought to improve myself, rather than seeking approval from others.

All three of us—Kelly, Phil and myself—have all of you in our prayers. You are important to us and we are honored to be part of the Patrol family.

Respectfully,

Richard D. Ellsworth  
State Chaplain

## FLYING WHEEL

The *Flying Wheel* is published by the Ohio State Highway Patrol in the interest of the entire Patrol family.

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Governor, State of Ohio

### John Born

Director, Department of Public Safety

### Colonel Paul A. Pride

Superintendent, Ohio State Highway Patrol

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# Partnering for Safety

Troopers met students at high schools across Ohio to talk about positive life choices. From top left: Bucyrus High School, Copley High School, Buckeye Valley High School, Waynedale High School, Mohawk High School, and Buckeye Valley High School.



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