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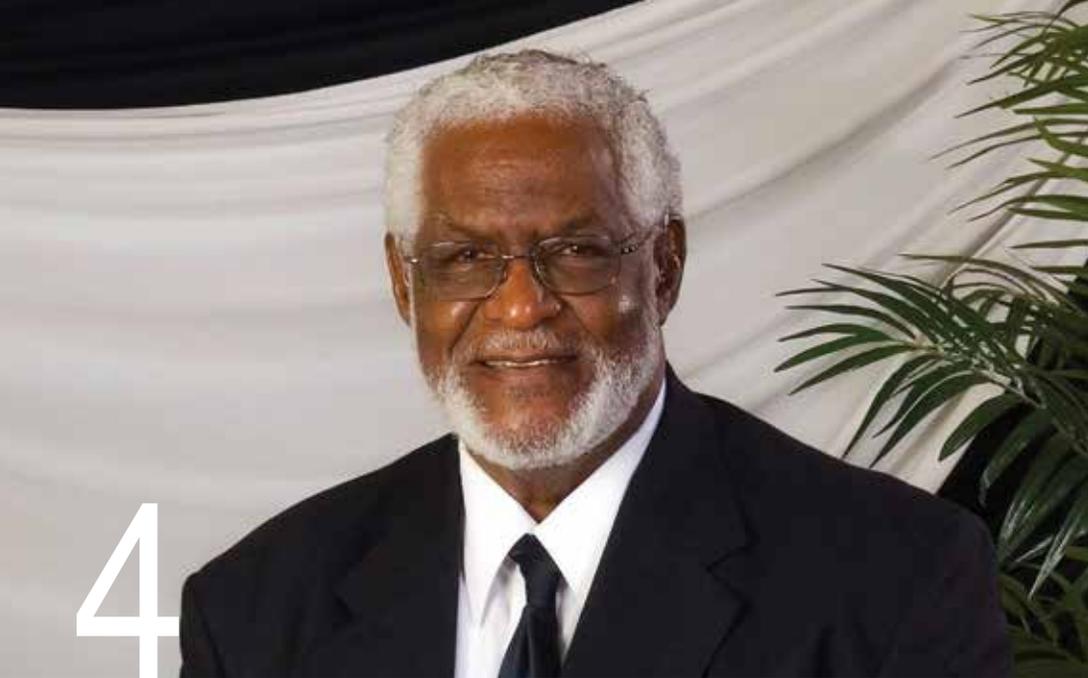


WHEEL

Vol. 55 No. 2

April - June 2017





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In remembrance.

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OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Colonel's Letter



It does not matter how different the shape of the badge or the color of the uniform. Fallen officers nationwide and worldwide are our brothers and sisters in blue.

During the month of May, from shore to shore, many memorial ceremonies are held in honor of the fallen. This remembrance of those who have died in the line of duty is a poignant reminder of the risks all law enforcement officers take every day to protect the lives of others.

It is one of the most important duties of a law enforcement officer to honor and preserve the legacy of the fallen. Each generation passes this duty on to the next.

Memorials give us a chance to tell a life's story – a life that was well-lived. These annual events allow us to gather and remember the tremendous strength, the unwavering courage, and the unshakable character of our brothers and sisters.

They gave their lives in the line of duty, for their fellow citizens to be safe, to make their highways and neighborhoods more secure, and their communities and country not only stronger, but more just.

The number of people at memorials across Ohio and the United States speaks volumes to the strength of our law enforcement family. Having the opportunity to speak at such events, while surrounded by distinguished public servants, proud family members and supporters of the law enforcement community, was humbling.

Memorials also introduce the possibility of hope, imagination and new life for survivors. There are no words or ways to measure what law enforcement families have sacrificed. I am sincerely grateful for their sacrifice, as well as the strength they show at memorial events that honor their loved ones.

Memorials allow us to celebrate – not that they died, but that they lived, and that they were a part of our lives. May we always remember their contributions to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Ohio and for the United States of America.

As the number of days, and months, and years go by, may there never come a time that we forget their sacrifices.

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

Colonel Paul A. Pride
Superintendent



Patrolman Louis Sharp Laid to Rest

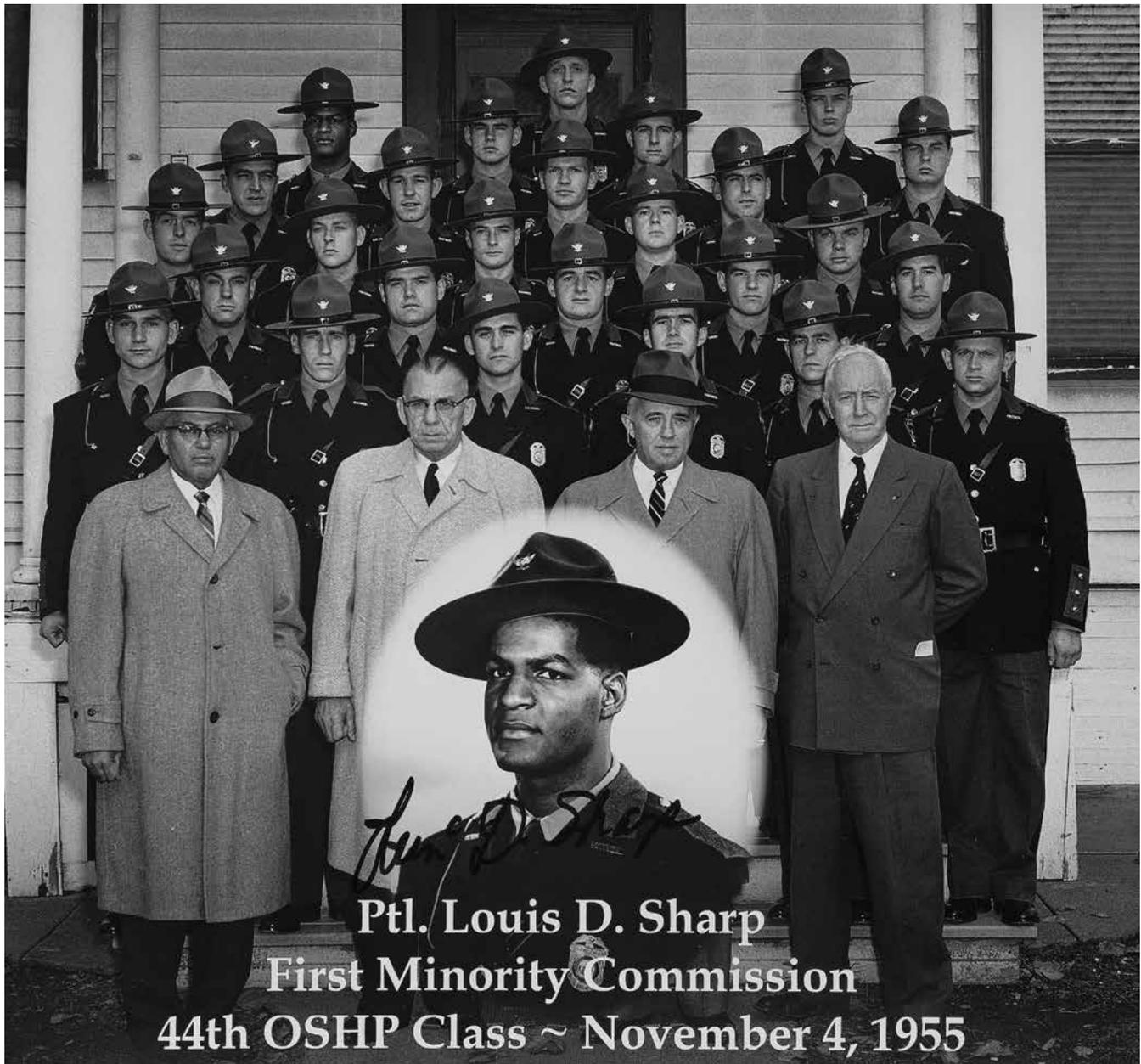
Few men or women leave behind a legacy like Louis “Lou” Dale Sharp. Sharp, 85, was mourned and celebrated following his death on May 7, 2017, after living a lifetime as a pioneer, mentor and friend.

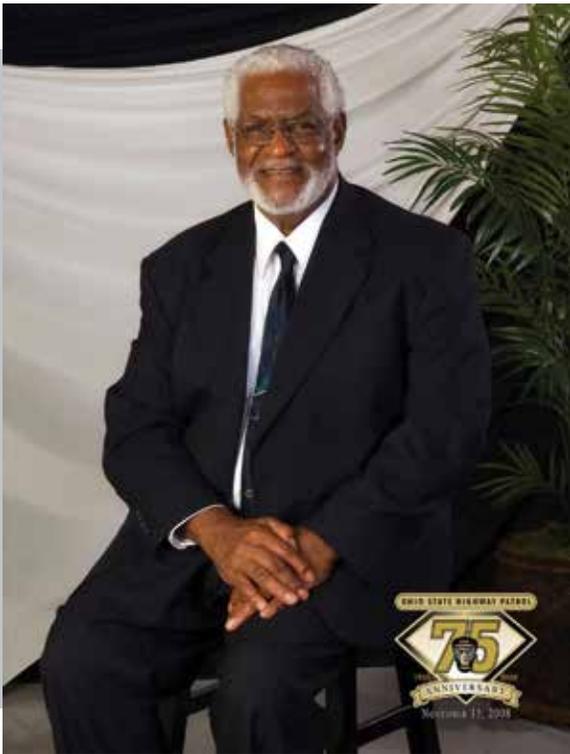
He was born in Columbus, Ohio on April 4, 1932. Sharp became the first African-American to serve as an Ohio State Highway Patrolman when he graduated with the 44th Academy class in 1955 and was assigned to the Findlay Post. At this time, Patrolman Sharp was the only minority member out of 700 employees. After nine months with the Patrol, Sharp left the organization for a different career opportunity that better supported his growing family.

Members of the Patrol have been blessed with his mentorship and attendance at numerous Patrol events. He is widely considered a person of great character who will be sorely missed.

A trailblazer actively involved in the community, Sharp continued to give back as an educator and principal at Pope John XXIII/Holy Rosary and other educational institutions. He was also elected the mayor of Urbancrest, Ohio, and was engaged in several charitable boards and civic associations throughout his generous life. He was inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame in 2011.

Prior to his work at the Patrol, Sharp graduated from Florida A&M University with a B.A. in physical education and The Ohio State University with an M.S. in education. He is a 1950 graduate of Columbus East High School.





“My favorite memory of Mr. Sharp is when I was the Recruitment Commander. He came to an event at the Academy, and he wanted to see my office. So I walked him down to the recruitment area and showed him my office, and I didn’t think about it at the time, but I have always kept a picture of him in my office on the wall. It had been there for a long time before he ever came to my office, but when he saw that photo of himself on my wall, he turned and he looked at me. I almost became emotional because the only thing he said was, “Thank you.””

“He brought dignity and a dream to so many young African Americans that wanted to be law enforcement officers but didn’t have the support. He was with us all, as he was able to see the progress that African Americans in the law enforcement community are now able to obtain and will in the future. He showed long ago that a man of color had the ability to set goals, and accomplish those goals, tough goals, as well as anyone else.”

– *Captain Gary Allen*

“He had a positive impact on the Division. He was a pacesetter and opened the doors for all minorities. He is definitely a success story in the pages of our history.”

“He always encouraged me to stay focused and for us to take care of each other. He challenged us to always look for the positive and the good in people. He was a friend and a mentor. It was truly a blessing and an honor to have been a part of his life.”

– *Staff Lieutenant Chad Neal*



“Mr. Sharp taught me and many others that perseverance and dedication are the keys to success. He displayed this through his actions and not merely words. All of his accomplishments after leaving the patrol speak volumes about who he was and his outlook on life. Although Mr. Sharp left the patrol after nine months on the job, his legacy and the path he laid for us will be everlasting.”

“Mr. Sharp will be remembered as the one man that paved the way for many minority men and women in the Ohio State Highway Patrol. His interest in the Division, right up to the time of his death, is a testament to his service above self-attitude. Knowing him has definitely made me a better man!”

– *Staff Lieutenant Chuck Jones*

Patrol Memorial Honors Fallen Heroes

By Julie Hinds

As the families walked into the Leadership Auditorium at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy, each had a story. They never spoke. They didn't need to. Everyone in the auditorium knew the story of why they were there.

For many of the families, our Memorial Ceremony is an important day. It's a chance to connect with their Patrol family. Tears are shed, while hugs and memories are shared. Some may smile and laugh a little. Sadly, they have been through this day before, as the first Friday in May is when family gathers at the Patrol Academy honoring loved ones killed in the line of duty.

For one family, it was their first walk into the academy for the Memorial Ceremony, their first walk into the auditorium, their first time hearing their loved one's name as a flower was placed on the memorial wall in his honor. Their loved one, Trooper Kenneth Velez, died on September 15, 2016, while conducting traffic enforcement along Interstate 90 in Lakewood.

"(He was) a great man who was taken all too soon," said Colonel Paul Pride in a moving address. "(He was) a father,

a husband, a son, a brother, a friend - my friend Kenny."

Memories of Trooper Velez were on everyone's mind, including Colonel Pride. He knew Trooper Velez, as they were both part of the "lean and mean" 118th Academy Class.

"Let us all remember Trooper Velez and all of those, every one of those we have lost," Pride said. "Let us celebrate not that they died, but that they lived and they were a part of our lives. Our lives are indeed richer because our paths crossed."

As the names were read, you could hear the sounds of the wind whipping the flags and the reverberations of the bell. Through the wall of glass separating the auditorium and the courtyard, you could see the breeze slowly knocking the red roses laid upon the memorial to the ground. Sounds of "Taps" and a 21-gun salute rang out into the air. "Amazing Grace" played by the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the Columbus Police and Fire Pipes and Drums filled the hearts of everyone in the auditorium.

"We can never repay the debts that are owed to our fallen officers and their families," Pride said. "The bravery and courage we recognize here today will never be forgotten."





2017 Police Unity Tour

By Special Contributor, Staff Lieutenant Heidi Marshall

The bagpipes. If there is one thing that will bring emotion to anyone in law enforcement or any first responder at all, it is the bagpipes. A group of nearly 200 cyclists from across the country gathered for the start of Chapter VIII's leg of the Police Unity Tour in Portsmouth, Va., on May 10, and there was not a dry eye when the bagpipes started to play. Everyone was riding for someone who died in the line of duty, giving the ultimate sacrifice after a lifetime of service. It is the least we can do.

Starting in Portsmouth, Va. that day were Captain Eric Sheppard, myself, retired Sergeant Eli Rivera, Trooper Justin Daley and Jean Paris, the surviving spouse of Trooper Mike Paris. We were riding in honor of Trooper Kenny Velez, who was killed in the line of duty on September 15, 2016, and who would be added to the Memorial Wall on May 15. His family would be waiting at the wall, so what more motivation do you need?

Day one of the tour covers 112 miles. The group is escorted by about 20 motorcycles and support vehicles, an ambulance, a bus and several trailers hauling food and drinks. It is quite a show – and a traffic nightmare for those traveling on U.S. Route 17. The response is overwhelmingly positive with honking horns, thumbs up, applause and signs. It helps you realize why you wanted to do this job in the first place. Even in the face of adversity and the negative media coverage of law enforcement, the majority of Americans are thankful for our service and they showed it during the ride.

Day two of the tour was 69 miles, and it rained all day. Everyone continued on despite the conditions, only because we had the motivation of nearly 22,000 names on the wall. A little rain is nothing compared to what their families have endured. Even with the rain, people came out to the road to cheer us on. The support of the communities and the other riders is amazing, and the rain did nothing to dampen that spirit. It just made us more resilient.

Day three of the tour is about 66 miles to Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington, D.C. There, all the chapters meet to ride the last miles together to the Memorial Wall. Easily more than 1,000 cyclists participate annually in the Unity Tour and it is a parade to the wall. The focus of each chapter ride is on the survivors who are participating in the tour, and they are moved to the front of the line for the last leg of the ride. When we get to the wall, it is a sea of people – survivors, families, friends, officers – and we ride through the Memorial in their honor. And, of course, there are the bagpipes. The bagpipes and applause are constant as the stream of cyclists ride through the Memorial.

When you tell someone you are going to ride a bicycle nearly 250 miles in three days, you get several comments – “that’s crazy,” “are you going to be able to make it?” “I get tired driving that far” – but it is a small distance to ride to have the privilege to honor a fellow officer or survivor who has paid a much greater price than sore legs. We ride for those who died, and we will continue to do so, until there are no names to put on the wall.



FEATURE PROGRAM

Contributing to a Safer World, State Troopers Conduct Crash Investigation Training in Bangkok

By Special Contributor, Jeffrey Grayson

According to the U.S. Department of State Assistant Secretary William R. Brownfield, “What happens overseas, what we do overseas, has a direct impact on our homes, our streets, and our communities here in the United States.”

In the spirit of contributing to a safer world, and in collaboration with the international drug trafficking fight, five Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) officers travelled to Bangkok, Thailand in March to conduct crash investigation training. The initiative was through a partnership program with the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs – also known as INL – of the United States Department of State.

Through this unique program, law enforcement officers from around the globe have the opportunity to learn from each other and build partnerships. The State Department pays all costs including the salaries of state and local officers while they are deployed.

At the request of the Royal Thai Police (RTP), five OSHP crash reconstructionists spent two weeks in Bangkok, Thailand, from March 20 to 31, teaching RTP officers to conduct thorough traffic crash investigations. Among those on the trip were Sgt. Jason Eiden (Findlay), Sgt. Frank Horvath (Columbus), Tpr. Larry Gaskill (Cambridge), Tpr. Todd Jester (Warren) and Tpr. Jennifer Soderquist (Wilmington).

Thailand has achieved significant success in its long-

term strategies against illegal drug abuse, trafficking and production; however, its criminal laws, criminal justice institutions and investigative capabilities need improvement in order to respond more effectively to transnational and domestic criminal threats.

“Drugs obviously have a part in traffic crashes everywhere, and Ohio is no different than any other place or Thailand because they have drug-related crashes there,” Sgt. Eiden said. “The proper investigation of a crash can lead to criminal charges, or ways to try and combat the problem itself to prevent some of these crashes from happening.”

The OSHP officers taught a total of 80 forensic science officers from the RTP over the course of two weeks in both Basic and Intermediate Crash Investigation. Training topics included how to properly identify, collect, and document physical evidence from vehicles and the roadway; how to analyze traffic crash elements and dynamics; how to apply measuring, photography, and data gathering techniques; and technical report writing.

The training was part of the INL/Bangkok’s Law Enforcement Support project and took place at the RTP Tactical Training Center in Hua Hin. It is designed to increase the capacity of the Royal Thai Government to combat transnational and other crimes that threaten Thailand and regional security.

Thailand is currently ranked second in the world in





terms of traffic fatalities, and the RTP had never previously received training in traffic crash investigations.

“Honestly it was a very humbling experience in that aspect to see how much they were able to do with so little,” Sgt. Eiden said. “They didn’t have a lot. They were doing measurements and things of that nature with nylon tapes, taking as many measurements as I would with a Total Station. They really took everything that they had and they put it to good use. There was nothing that was wasted.”

Sgt. Eiden served as the team leader, while the other four officers were tasked mainly with the instruction of the students. He oversaw the two class rooms of students, handled logistics and made sure the instructors had what they needed for the program.

The students were divided into two groups – one instructed by Sgt. Horvath and Tpr. Gaskill, and the other instructed by Tpr. Soderquist and Tpr. Jester.

“I’m really proud of how the instructor team came together to really put on a great class for all of the students,” Sgt. Eiden said. “I was just as proud of the effort the students put forth. Never have I seen such a group of people put so much effort into a class like this that I have taught before here.”

INL selected the OSHP to implement this program because of the agency's reputation and expertise in traffic crash investigations. In 2016, OSHP investigated more than 63,000 traffic crashes. Additionally, within the OSHP, the Ohio Traffic Safety Office is responsible for strategic planning that focuses on traffic safety programs to reduce crash-related fatalities.

Although the RTP officers had experience in crime scenes and photography, they lacked basic fundamentals of traffic crash investigations.

“Our classes were comprised of forensic police officers. I was surprised to discover that they never respond to crash scenes or do any type of scene evaluation. I couldn’t imagine investigating a crash and never appearing on scene,” Tpr. Soderquist said. “I was also surprised by their lack of knowledge in reference to the interior of a vehicle. They only examine the exterior and were never exposed to the link between occupant injuries and

damage to the interior of the vehicle.”

She went on to note that the interior examination is important because it can lead to drug interdiction, emphasizing that law enforcement officers need to arrive on a crash scene and open their eyes beyond just the crash investigation and remember all the drug interdiction techniques. Those skills, paired with knowledge and experience gained over time, can turn a crash investigation into a meaningful lead to aid in the war on drugs.

In September 2012, the OSHP became one of the first state law enforcement agencies in the country to sign a partnership agreement with the United States Department of State – INL. This enables INL to utilize the knowledge and expertise of Ohio troopers to train, advise and mentor foreign law enforcement personnel as part of the Department of State’s numerous foreign assistance programs focused on civilian security. OSHP gains the ability to expand its ties with countries of interest, develop new skill sets and represent the U.S.

Through the INL program, OSHP officers have previously conducted operational and core values training in Suriname, Guyana and Ghana.

Additionally, the Patrol hosted a visit from the Ecuador Transit Police in June 2012. They had been tasked by the Ecuadorian government to implement a highway patrol in their country and the OSHP was chosen as the model agency for the visit.

Collaboration within law enforcement, and the sharing of ideas and techniques, is at the core of the INL program.

“If another country could provide us with education and techniques that could enhance our agency, I hope we would be receptive to that benefit. This global project is about helping each other; we are all part of the same law enforcement community.” Tpr. Soderquist said.

By the end of the two weeks in Thailand, discussions expanded from being solely training-related to exploring ways of further develop the RTP’s forensic science, in order to establish standardized procedures in their approach to traffic crashes to build a solid crash investigation program.

161st Academy Class Graduates Patrol's Largest Class



On March 24, the largest academy class to graduate from the Ohio State Highway Patrol took the oath of office in front of family, friends and Ohio dignitaries at the Patrol's Training Academy. The 85 members of the 161st Academy Class surpasses the record set in 2013 by the 153rd Class, made of 81 graduates.

Governor John Kasich provided the keynote address, while additional remarks were provided by Director John Born, Ohio Department of Public Safety, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol Superintendent 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.

Trooper Joshua E. Jones of Tipp City, Ohio, was selected as class speaker and thanked the Academy and cadet family members for being supportive during their training.

Four of the graduates received special honors for top performance in various fields of study at the Training Academy. The honorees were:

- Overall performance – Trooper Joshua E. Jones, Tipp City, Ohio
- Top performance in academics – Trooper Spencer D. Groves, Grove City, Ohio
- Top performance in driving – Trooper David D. Ellis, Lynchburg, Ohio
- Top performance in firearms – Trooper Adam A. Knowles, Columbus, Ohio
- Top performance in physical fitness – Trooper Joshua E. Jones, Tipp City, Ohio

The graduation marked the end of 23 weeks of training for the graduates, who reported for field training on March 27. Their assignments include 24 of the Patrol's 58 posts.



Trooper Alijandro J. Torres was presented with a special honor upon graduating. Trooper Torres is the son of retired Trooper A.J. Torres and godson of fallen Trooper Kenneth Velez. He was given Trooper Velez's unit number – 511 – on his badge, to recognize and remember his godfather.

Major Black Promoted to Assistant Superintendent

Lieutenant Colonel Williams Retires

Michael D. Black, a 29-year veteran of the Patrol, was promoted to lieutenant colonel and named assistant superintendent on April 5. He replaced Lieutenant Colonel George J. Williams, who retired on April 3 after 30 years of service, including nearly four as assistant superintendent.

“It’s an honor to serve as a lieutenant colonel in such a prestigious and nationally recognized law enforcement agency,” Black said. “I am fortunate to serve under Colonel (Paul) Pride and with Lieutenant Colonel (Kevin) Teaford.”

Lt. Col. Black began his career with the Patrol in 1988 as a cadet dispatcher at the Piqua District Headquarters. He trained with the 118th Academy Class and earned his commission in November 1989. He served at the Marion and Fremont posts, before being promoted to sergeant and transferring to the Training Academy in 1995. In September 1998, he transferred to the Delaware Post. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in December 1999 and transferred to the Hamilton Post to serve as post commander.

In 2004, Lt. Col. Black was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Strategic Services to serve as the legislative liaison. As staff lieutenant, he also served in the Crime Lab, Office of Field Operations and at the Columbus District Headquarters. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of captain and served as commander of the Columbus District. In 2012, he was promoted to the rank of major and transferred to his most recent assignment in the Office of Criminal Investigations.

Lt. Col. Black attended the FBI National Academy, earning his certificate of completion in September 1997. In 2012, he attended the United States Army War College. He served in the United States Marines from 1984 to 1988.

Lt. Col. Williams, Office of the Superintendent, retired on April 3, 2017, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the



Michael D. Black



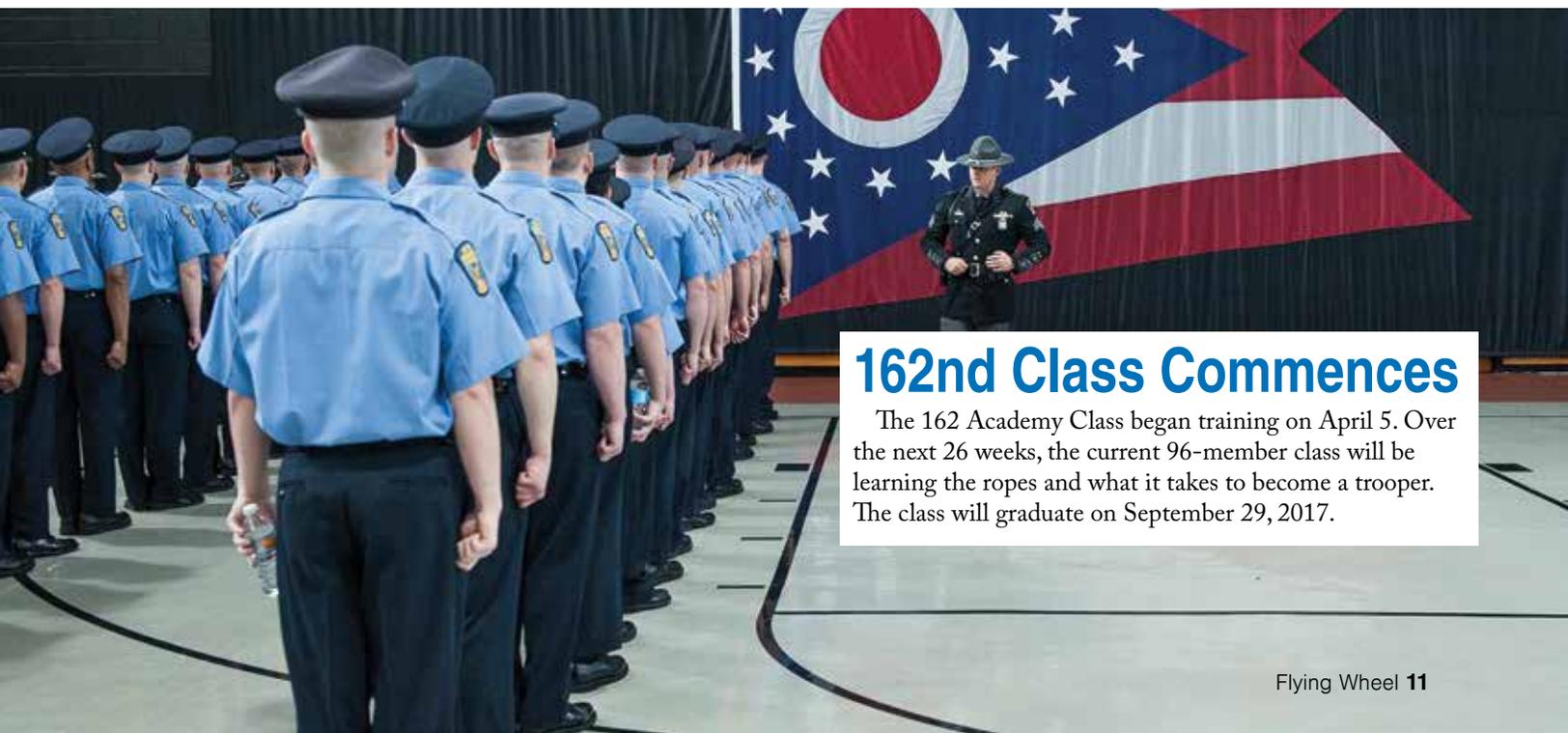
George J. Williams

Patrol in April 1987 as a member of the 116th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Swanton Post, where he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year in 1993. In 1995, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Ashtabula Post to serve as an assistant post commander.

In 2002, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Warren Post to serve as commander. In 2005, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Warren District Headquarters to serve as an assistant district commander. In 2007, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the Cambridge District Headquarters to serve as district commander.

In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of major and transferred to the Office of Personnel to serve as commander. In 2013, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and transferred to the Office of the Superintendent.

Lt. Col. Williams served in the U.S. Army from 1983 to 1986. He completed training at Northwestern University’s School of Police Staff and Command in 2004.



162nd Class Commences

The 162 Academy Class began training on April 5. Over the next 26 weeks, the current 96-member class will be learning the ropes and what it takes to become a trooper. The class will graduate on September 29, 2017.

Retiree Appreciation Month

Throughout April, retirees and active members gathered at Patrol posts and restaurants statewide to share stories, laughs and fellowship. General Headquarters also hosted a retiree celebration in the atrium of the Charles D. Shipley Building on April 14.



New Philadelphia



Delaware



St. Clairsville



Marietta



Warren Post and District



Chillicothe



Fremont



Chardon



Athens



Lima

14 Patrol Members Reach 30 Years of Service



The Over the Hill club recognized 14 new members, all from the 116th class, on April 1. They each achieved 30 years of service this year.

Sergeant Gregory S. Blake
Trooper Randy S. Boggs
Lieutenant Scott A. Demmitt
Trooper Dwayne A. Dotson
Lieutenant Michael R. Gore

Trooper Mica J. Hatcher
Captain Paul E. Hermes
Trooper Steven D. Jefferies
Trooper Gregory A. Rayot
Sergeant Darwin R. Reed

Sergeant Ronald P. Schneider
Staff Lieutenant William H. Stidham
Trooper Nathaniel R. Towns
Lieutenant Colonel George J. Williams



United States Army Lieutenant Colonel Clydellia Prichard-Allen, Commander Columbus Recruiting Battalion, addresses the women in attendance on "The Two Choices in a Woman's Life."

Patrol Hosts Women's Leadership Conference

The Ohio State Highway Patrol hosted the 2017 Women's Leadership Conference in May to provide employees with an opportunity to network, foster teamwork and participate in conversation. The Patrol is committed to leadership development.

Colonel Paul Pride opened the conference. Speakers included Justice Sharon Kennedy of the Supreme Court of Ohio, Retired Ashland University Coach Sue Ramsey, Lt. Colonel Clydellia Prichard-Allen of the Columbus Recruiting Battalion, Sharon Saia and Beth Snoke of The Ohio State University, Jim Fisher of MetLife, Angela Byers of the Cincinnati Division of the FBI, Major Marla Gaskill, retired Sergeant Erika Englund and Brittany Cardwell of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Ohio EMA Director Sima Merick, ODPS Communications Director Kristen Castle, ODPS HCM Administrator Julie Lee, Laura Cruea, and Melissa Keyes.

Look to Hydration for Optimal Health

By *Brittany Cardwell, RDN, LD*

National Nutrition Month was celebrated back in March with the theme of “Put Your Best Fork Forward.” This message encourages us to evaluate our daily food selections and eating behaviors in order to nourish our body with food and drink that will contribute to improving our health and well-being, not hinder it. One of the most vital ways to contribute to a healthier self is by staying properly hydrated. Hydration is essential for survival and impacts every cell, tissue, and organ in the body. Staying healthy requires staying hydrated.

Water, or the lack thereof, plays a role in physical and cognitive performance, gastrointestinal function, kidney function, and heart function. Beyond that, dehydration can also lead to headaches and may increase risk of certain chronic diseases. Individual fluid needs are influenced by a variety of factors such as a person’s activity level, the environmental temperature, and a person’s health status. It’s well known that carbohydrates, proteins and fats are important macronutrients needed in our diet, but an even more essential nutrient is water.

There’s no recommended dietary allowance (RDA) established for fluids due to the variability in individual needs. However, the Institute of Medicine has published an adequate intake (AI) level to ensure nutritional adequacy for fluid consumption. In a mild environment, men are encouraged to consume 104 fluid ounces of total beverages per day while women are recommended to consume 72 fluid ounces of total beverages per day. For a more personalized fluid recommendation to stay properly hydrated, I would encourage drinking half of your body weight in fluids every day. For a 200 pound individual, this would be equivalent to 100 fluid ounces.

Beyond water, drinks such as juice, milk, tea, lemonade, sports drinks, coffee beverages, and soda can help us reach half our body weight in fluids. However, these beverages can also contribute a significant amount of empty calories to our diet. Sipping on just 12 ounces of a 140 calorie sugar-sweetened beverage daily would contribute 50,000

calories and 65 cups of sugar to our diet in a year. That’s just from one sugared beverage a day!

When it comes to caffeinated drinks, up to 400 mg of caffeine (found in about 4-8 oz cups of coffee) is not likely to be harmful in healthy adults with no underlying medical concerns. Despite popular belief, caffeine is not dehydrating. Caffeine stimulates the bladder to contract, increasing the urge to urinate. When this occurs, the bladder excretes water (urine) that has already been used by the body. Caffeine does not cause water to be pulled from the body, but simply prompts the bladder to empty sooner. Many caffeinated drinks, such as coffee and tea, are naturally calorie-free, however they can become calorie minefields when sugars are added to enhance the flavor.

A moderate amount of caffeine does not compromise hydration status, but alcohol consumption can. Alcohol creates a dehydrating and depressant effect that can interfere with muscle recovery from exercise and negatively impact a variety of performance variables (physically and mentally). If you want to optimize your health, stick to water – unsweetened, fruit-infused, sparkling or naturally flavored – to meet your hydration needs.

Regardless of whether you’re training for a marathon or hydrating for day-to-day activity, the key is to drink enough throughout the day. Thirst is the most obvious sign of dehydration, but other indicators include infrequent urination, dark-colored urine, dry mouth, fatigue, headache, confusion, and lightheadedness. A well hydrated individual should be urinating every 2 to 4 hours and produce urine of a pale-yellow color. If you go all day without using the restroom and have urine the color of apple juice when you do, you need to drink more water.

Water frequently gets overlooked when establishing a healthy diet despite the fact that we could survive a much shorter time span in the absence water versus food. Don’t bypass the importance of water and hydration when it comes to your health. If you stay properly hydrated you can minimize fatigue and lethargy in order to put your best fork forward.

Auxiliary News

The Patrol displayed two cruisers during the 2017 Columbus International Auto Show at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in March. Members of the Patrol Auxiliary were involved in greeting the public, answering questions and putting a friendly face to the Patrol. The Patrol displayed the show car and a cruiser.



OHIO INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

One of the Biggest Gambling Cases Ever Leads to Sentencing

One of the Ohio Investigative Unit's (OIU) biggest gambling cases came to a close in March after a Wooster man and his company and a Mentor man and his company were sentenced for their roles in a large-scale illegal gambling operation. Both men were convicted of gambling and each of their companies were convicted of the felony charge of attempted engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity.

The two individuals and their companies forfeited in excess of \$2 million and both were placed on community control sanctions.

Their businesses paid more than \$20,000 in fines and court costs. The court also issued an order to "... immediately cease all business operation related to the Puzzle Bug electronic gaming device and/or other electronic gaming devices, including but not limited to, the manufacture, sale, placement, distribution, advertisement, collections, service and/or maintenance."

During the course of the investigation, more than 40 individuals and companies were convicted of engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity,

money laundering, gambling and possession of criminal tools. OIU agents seized more than 400 illegal slot machines and courts have ordered more than \$4.3 million in forfeiture. Additional charges are expected on several out-of-state manufacturers identified during the investigation.

OIU agents and the United States Secret Service were assisted by the Ohio Attorney General's Office's Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Wooster Police Department, and the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office throughout the investigation.

CRIMINAL PATROL

Troopers Seize \$600,000 Worth of Cocaine and Heroin



Troopers seized more than 6 pounds of cocaine and 2 pounds of heroin, valued at approximately \$600,000, following a traffic stop in Madison County.

On February 7, 2017, troopers stopped a 2016 Chevrolet Cruz with Iowa registration, for a marked lanes violation on Interstate 70. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed the contraband.

Troopers Seize Cocaine, Heroin Worth more than \$19,000



On March 19, 2017, troopers stopped a 2005 Nissan Altima, with Ohio registration, for moving and equipment violations on Bethel Road in the city of Columbus, in Franklin County. The driver was subsequently arrested for OVI. During an administrative inventory of the vehicle, troopers recovered more than 65 grams of cocaine and 126 grams of heroin. The contraband has a street value of more than \$19,150.

Thank Yous

A collection of messages received through mail and social media

Just wanted to commend a trooper for his professionalism. I just had a level 111 inspection on State Route 33 in Fairfield County. The trooper is a credit to the uniform.

...

My wife and I just wanted to thank the officer who took time today at the Tiffin YMCA Community Event to take a picture with my son. Although I'm sure he was busy, he didn't hesitate to make my son's day by taking a picture with him. Thank you so much for reaffirming that state troopers, as well as all law enforcement, are there for people. My son is still chattering about this.

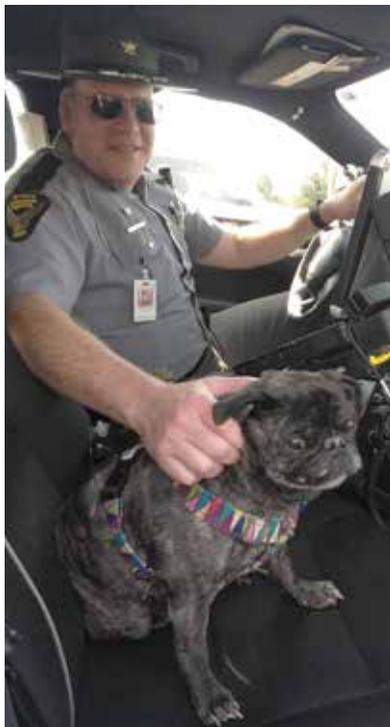
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Today I took my kiddos to Pizza Hut for lunch. We had the lunch buffet and being by myself with two kiddos going to and from to get the food was quite the task! My 3-year-old asked if he could stay at the table, but I said he had to come with me to get the pizza. A state trooper sitting behind us offered to have my son sit with him. My son was being shy and said no, so I told the trooper thank you for offering. The next trip, my son wanted to stay at the table and this time the trooper nodded at me - meaning he would watch him. I thanked him again! On his way out, he stopped at the table and told my son to be good for his mommy! He left and my son watched him drive off and immediately regretted not sitting with him because of course now that the trooper was gone, he wanted to talk. The waitress came to our table and said, "You are good to go. That state trooper paid for your meal!" How awesome! I could have cried! So thank you to the trooper in the Wintersville Pizza Hut! I will be paying it forward!

...

Many, many thanks to Sgt. Charles Ivory for helping my wife, daughter and granddaughter in the snow just south of Cleveland off of Interstate 80. You will never know how appreciative this guy in Tennessee is to be able to find help for his family 600 miles away in the middle of the night. Thank you!!

...



I would like to give a shout out and share my gratitude for an officer's assistance last Wednesday. Driving south on Interstate 75 just north of Lima, I ran out of gas. Trooper Lawrence St. Clair pulled up right after it happened, just as I was panicking about my options. Professional and calm, he offered to take me to the next exit for gas. I was so relieved, but also impressed by the way he communicated what would happen at each step. Clearly, he understands his role to protect and serve. He exemplified what I expect in our law enforcement. Best of all, he allowed my beloved Buster to travel to the gas station with us! This touched my heart deeply. Thank you Ohio State Highway Patrol and Trooper St. Clair for your training, professionalism and genuine caring for your community!

Thanks to the Lebanon Post!! This morning we had a blow out on one of the two horse trailers we were traveling to Tennessee with. The tire was on the side of traffic, and with both trailers being loaded with horses we couldn't get too far off the road. I called the Patrol and asked if there was a trooper who could help with traffic while we pulled off and changed the tire. Within a few minutes one pulled up behind us and stood watch until we could get the tire changed!! He also had a lug nut wrench which we used on the tire. Within just a few minutes we were back on the road. Thanks so much, you are appreciated!!!



OSHP Receives National Award from the DEA



Members of the Patrol, U.S. Attorney's Office, DEA, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Beachwood and Cleveland police departments received the national award for Outstanding Opioid Investigation Effort.

In February, the Ohio State Highway Patrol was presented with the Outstanding Opioid Investigative Effort Award from the Drug Enforcement Administration. The national award stems from Operation Loaded Deck, which targeted a large-scale, violent drug trafficking organization affecting the Cleveland area. The cartel was importing large quantities of heroin, cocaine, marijuana and fentanyl from Juarez, Mexico to several U.S. cities, including Cleveland.

The investigation took place over three years with the assistance of several state and local police departments. The Patrol dedicated a sergeant and a trooper to the DEA Cleveland District Office full time, as well as a K-9 unit on a part time basis. The Patrol assisted with numerous traffic stops and located several hidden compartments in various vehicles that were used to transfer narcotics and/or currency.

According to the DEA, the dismantlement of this drug trafficking organization was imperative to the safety of the community and the surrounding areas.

Colonel Pride Inducted into the Buckeye Boys State Hall of Fame

Colonel Paul A. Pride, Superintendent, was inducted into the American Legion Buckeye Boys State Hall of Fame on June 12 at Millett Hall at Miami University. Colonel Pride was a 1978 Buckeye Boys State delegate from Philo High School.

"American Legion Buckeye Boys State is extremely proud of former delegates who go on to achieve success in their respective careers for the betterment of our nation and its citizens," said Gerald A. White, director of Buckeye Boys State. "Your contributions to the field of law enforcement and your career with the Ohio State Highway Patrol more than qualify you for this award."



Colonel Paul A. Pride is inducted into the American Legion Buckeye Boys State Hall of Fame. Colonel Pride is pictured with Darell Bishop and James Koppin.

OVI AWARDS



Twenty-eight officers were recognized at the Academy on March 22 for leading the state last year in impaired driving arrests. Troopers arrested 25,263 drivers in 2016 for operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Those honored were:

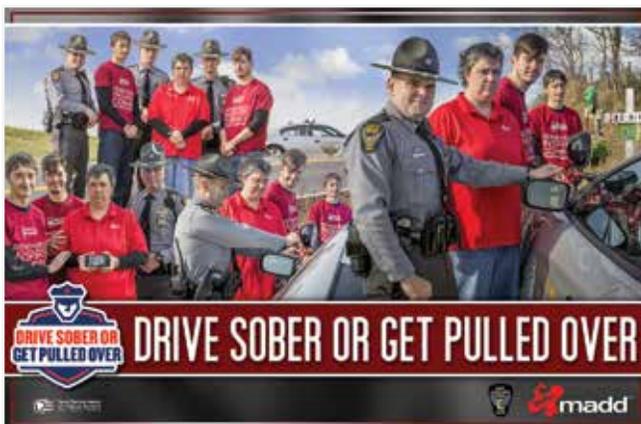
Trooper William R. Clay
Trooper Logan M. Kirkendall
Trooper Nicholas J. Konrad
Trooper Adam J. Hartford
Trooper Casimir A. Vonsacken
Trooper Evan M. Slates
Trooper Nathan L. Waldock

Trooper Patrick J. Reagan
Trooper Timothy J. Kay
Trooper Corey D. Resendez
Trooper Tammy D. Soto
Trooper John R. Nemastil
Trooper Chester L. Engle
Trooper Jonathon A. Ganley

Trooper Bradley A. Baker
Trooper Eric C. Frost
Trooper Brandi M. Allen
Trooper Kristi J. Comstock
Sergeant Jermaine D. Thaxton
Trooper Justin C. Hurlbert
Trooper Neil R. Everett

Trooper Rustun K. Schack
Trooper Jacob D. Landis
Trooper Eric D. Holbrook
Trooper Joshua B. Bumgardner
Trooper Brett M. Lee
Trooper William J. Hickey
Trooper Michael K. Ervin

MADD RECOGNITIONS



The Lancaster Post was recognized on April 3 by Ohio Rep. Timothy Schaffer for their efforts and collaboration with other law enforcement agencies to increase OVI enforcement in Fairfield and Perry counties. The post has a strong partnership with MADD, developing signs for distribution to area businesses, as well as billboards on Naumen Outdoors. The partnership has increased awareness and helped prevent future tragedies on Ohio's roadways due to impaired driving.



MADD – Ohio, Southwestern Office honored (from left) Troopers Matt Schaub, Brett Lee, Alex Pater and Brittany Noah in March for leading the Wilmington District in OVI arrests.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION



Police Officer II Staci Eiford leapt into action while on duty March 6 when she learned of a nearby unconscious pedestrian. She immediately notified dispatch to call an ambulance and started CPR, after determining the man had blue lips, no breath and no pulse. Columbus Fire Department EMS arrived and administered NARCAN, which brought back his pulse. He was transported to an intensive care unit for placement on a ventilator and was later released in stable condition.

For her quick and decisive actions, PO Eiford received a Certificate of Recognition from her post commander, Lieutenant Kevin Dillard.



Trooper Robert W. Gatchel stopped a vehicle for a speeding violation in November. He quickly realized the driver was unable to breathe and was choking. Trooper Gatchel immediately pulled her from the vehicle and performed the Heimlich maneuver.

His lifesaving actions were recognized at a ceremony in March at the Lima Post, where he received a certificate of recognition from Captain Gene Smith.

Citation of Merit Presented to Motorists

In February, a car was struck when it crossed into the path of a commercial vehicle. Mr. Jeff Thompson was driving in the area when he saw the car, which had traveled about 5,000 feet after the collision and came to a stop 300 feet off of U.S. 42.

Thompson stopped to assist a vehicle, which had a burning tire on the rear passenger side, and quickly realized the driver was unresponsive and the passenger was conscious but in a lot of pain. Thompson removed the passenger and got her to safety. The driver's door wouldn't open, so Thompson ran into the road and flagged down another motorist. He and the motorist who stopped, Mr. Ronald Durant, pried open the driver's door. Durant climbed into the vehicle and freed the driver just as fire spread to the front passenger compartment.

When emergency personnel arrived on scene, the vehicle was fully engulfed in flames. Thompson and Durant remained with the couple until medical personnel arrived. The woman continues to recover; however, the man passed away from his injuries.

Thompson and Durant received a Citation of Merit from Colonel Paul A. Pride on April 27 for their actions.



Dispatchers Earn Gold Star Awards

The 2015 – 2016 Ohio Gold Star Awards program took place April 12 in Sandusky. It's hosted by the Ohio Chapters of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials and the National Emergency Number Association. The two organizations worked together to promote and recognize outstanding performance in dispatch centers throughout Ohio. Below are the winners from the Patrol.



2016

Theresa Moore – Cambridge (Solid Gold Award)
Shelley Town – Southington (Solid Gold Award)
Brandy Laudermilt – Athens (Solid Gold Award)
Sarah May – Cambridge (Double Gold Award)
John Ceculski – Cambridge (Double Gold Award)
Tara Barnhart – Bowling Green (Double Gold Award)
Susan Downing – Bowling Green (Double Gold Award)
Clifford Phillips – Mansfield (Double Gold Award)
Jacqueline Martin – Mansfield (Double Gold Award)
Jared Reagh – Delaware (Double Gold Award)
April Munoz – Delaware (Double Gold Award)
Jennifer Werring – Batavia (Double Gold Award)
Rebel Martin – Batavia (Double Gold Award)
Chris Phelps – Batavia (Double Gold Award)
Samantha Wilson – Batavia (Double Gold Award)
Patty Downing – Batavia (Double Gold Award)
Aislinn Ainsworth – Wilmington (Double Gold Award)
Jessica Sheppard – Wilmington (Double Gold Award)
Jacqueline Miller – Columbus (Double Gold Award)
Megan Howard – Columbus (Double Gold Award)
Caitlin Waters – Columbus (Double Gold Award)
Lori Welsh-Arbogast – West Jefferson (Double Gold Award)
Courtney Franklin – Columbus (Gold Star Certificate)
Heidi Maloy – Sandusky (Gold Star Certificate)
Clark Miller – Columbus (Gold Star Certificate)
Janice Miro – St. Clairsville (Gold Star Certificate)
Josa Muir – Ravenna (Gold Star Certificate)
Adrienne Sheffer – Columbus (Gold Star Certificate)
Jennifer Pakish – Brookpark (Gold Ribbon Award)
Rhonda Tyree – Brookpark (Gold Ribbon Award)
Lise Michaels – Brookpark (Gold Ribbon Award)
Denise Demonkos – Brookpark (Gold Ribbon Award)

2015

Rhonda Eck – Findlay (Solid Gold Award)
William Courtright – New Philadelphia (Solid Gold Award)
Kari Root – Springfield (Solid Gold Award)
Denise Simon – Canton (Double Gold Award)
Amanda Hermann – Canton (Double Gold Award)
Marion Stout – Columbus (Double Gold Award)
Sharon Collins – Columbus (Double Gold Award)
Christa Jamison – Columbus (Double Gold Award)
Melissa Rath – St. Clairsville (Double Gold Award)
Traci Jaskowiak – St. Clairsville (Double Gold Award)
Kevin Yoder – New Philadelphia (Double Gold Award)
Katrina Katerberg – New Philadelphia (Double Gold Award)
Elizabeth Worrell – New Philadelphia (Double Gold Award)
Sarah Morgan – Cambridge (Double Gold Award)
Rebecca Canavan – Cambridge (Double Gold Award)
Jennifer Holmes – Piqua (Double Gold Award)
Ashley Thomas – Piqua (Double Gold Award)
Carrie Breech – Columbus (Gold Star Certificate)
Dorothy Ettl – Bucyrus (Gold Star Certificate)
Nicholas Johnson – Warren (Gold Star Certificate)
Cheryl Smith – Canfield (Gold Star Certificate)
Ernest King – Lancaster (Gold Star Certificate)
Ashley Jordan – Medina (Gold Star Certificate)
Christopher Baker – Bucyrus (Gold Star Certificate)
Lori Stine – New Philadelphia (Gold Star Certificate)



Credit Union Honored

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union was presented with the first place Louise Herring Philosophy-In-Action Member Service Award in the \$36 - \$100 million category. The award was presented to the credit union on April 17 at the Ohio Credit Union League's Celebration of Achievements and Reception.

ACE/CRIMINAL PATROL



On April 20, the Patrol recognized the first quarter ACE and Criminal Patrol award recipients.

Top Row (Left to Right):

- Trooper Chad M. Schell
- Trooper Spencer A. Large
- Trooper Bradley Hess
- Sergeant Christian J. Niemeyer
- Trooper Ryan M. May

Bottom Row (Left to Right):

- Sergeant Neil D. Laughlin
- Trooper Timothy R. Markowski
- Trooper Christopher J. Finley
- Trooper Joseph M. Weeks

Not pictured: Trooper Matthew T. Atwood

Springfield Rotary Recognition



Springfield Post Trooper Timothy S. Durham was recognized by the Springfield Rotary Club during the annual Safety Forces Day. Trooper Durham was recognized for being a leader and for his commitment to the Patrol as well as the Springfield community.

From left to right: Springfield Fire Captain Jeremy S. Linn, Trooper Timothy S. Durham, Springfield Sgt. James P. Hall and Clark County Sheriff's Deputy Ryan Weaver.

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Cambridge District



Staff Lieutenant Ralston took part in the 2017 Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) Final Leg for the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria. For 10 days in March, the Flame of Hope was carried through 47 cities, towns and communities in Austria before arriving at the WM-Stadium Planai in Schladming for the opening ceremonies of the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games. LETR is a grassroots organization of law enforcement officers from around the world that raises awareness and funds for people with intellectual disabilities.

Fremont Post



Sergeant Matt Davis worked with students in the Vanguard Tech Center marketing class on “Safety Week for Skylar,” a safety belt awareness campaign that honored their classmate. Skylar was an unbelted passenger in a vehicle involved in a fatal crash. She suffered a severe brain injury. Sergeant Davis responded to the fatal crash that left Skylar injured.

The safety belt campaign raised awareness on usage, as well as the life-saving and injury-reducing role they play in car crashes. The students presented their campaign at a state DECA competition earlier this year, earning fourth place and the opportunity to compete at the national level. Nationals were held in April in California.

Warren District



Trooper Lindsay Buckner, Trooper Matt Soeder, Sergeant Bruce Zuchowski, Trooper Gary Whitacre, Trooper Tony Stephens, Sergeant Rick Sprague and Sergeant Bill Lee took part in the annual None 4 Under 21 event at Hiram College in April. Approximately 1,600 high school students from Portage and Trumbull counties learned about the dangers of drinking and driving. A mock crash also took place.

Retiree qualifications took place in April.

In attendance were: Back row (from left): Bill Jones, Mike Schneider, Bill Dean, Frank Gharky, Bill Davis, Paul Brunsmann and Jeff Klem. Front row (from left): Bill Bancroft, Joe Truchan, Larry Firmi, Gary Dolak, Tom Carr, Tom Halligan, Celeste Kirksey-Gallagher, Randy Skaggs and Al Moore.



Lima Post



Troopers at the Lima Post were at the Cycleworx Motorcycle Safety event in Lima in May, reminding motorists to look out for motorcycles on the highway, at intersections and while changing lanes. Pictured is Sgt. Shawn D. Cook. (Photo credit: Evelyn Smith of the Lima Safe Communities, mother of Major Gene Smith).

Click it or Ticket



Many posts participated in kick off events for the annual Click it or Ticket enforcement mobilization. Some of those participating included the Van Wert post, which helped partners pass out McDonald's coupons to Crestview High School students who wore seat belts as they arrived to school. In Paulding County, troopers passed out 130 McDonald's coupons to students at Wayne Trace High School. Troopers at the Canfield Post also participated in a kickoff event by joining law enforcement in the Youngstown area in a kick-off event in May.



Bowling Green Post / Findlay District

On April 20, Staff Lieutenant Jarod Savidge and Lieutenant Angel Burgos presented 11-year-old Brett Holbrook of Michigan with an honorary trooper certificate and a tour of the Bowling Green Post. Holbrook, who arrived in a homemade Trooper uniform, received his very own Stetson and badge. He sat in a patrol car and operated the lights and sirens. The post then hosted Holbrook and his family for a pot luck lunch to help celebrate the day. Holbrook is a student with special needs who became interested in the Ohio State Highway Patrol after his dad was pulled over. During the traffic stop, Holbrook was impressed by the Trooper's professionalism and how he looked in his uniform.

Wilmington District

Chaplain Pastor Kelly McInerney retired this March after more than 15 years of service to the men and women of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Pastor McInerney will be assuming the senior pastor position at the Bible Baptist Church of Savannah, Ga.

“I am very saddened to be leaving the state, but I will always think of my time with the [Patrol] as one of the highlights of my ministry here in Wilmington,” he said. “It will definitely be a new challenge for me and my family.”

Pastor McInerney has plans to tell law enforcement officers in his Savannah church about his chaplain work to see if there are opportunities to serve. He also intends to reach out to the local and state police in the area.

“Just being part of a law enforcement organization that realizes and cares about the spiritual needs of their personnel is a real blessing,” he said. “I grew up as a cop’s kid, and I know there were many times that my dad could have used someone to talk to from an officer’s perspective. Those times that I have been able to offer prayer, advice, counsel and just friendship have been most rewarding to me.”

That experience led Pastor McInerney to apply when Colonel Kenneth Morckel and Reverend Richard Ellsworth began expanding the chaplain division. At the time, he was a chaplain for the Clinton County Sheriff’s Office, and he made friends with several troopers at crashes and hospitals. Dispatchers and troopers within the district also attended his Wilmington church. Pastor McInerney was appointed in September 2001.

“I want to thank the men and women of the Wilmington District for allowing me to work with them, befriend them and support them when needed. They have all been very kind to me throughout these years, and I definitely will leave a part of my heart with the Ohio State Highway Patrol. You will always be in my prayers!”



Kelly McInerney

Security Services



Police Officer 2 Daniel Williard was first to cross the finish line at the 2017 Columbus Capital City Quarter Marathon on April 29. He finished in 36 minutes, 46 seconds, with an average pace of 5:37. The quarter marathon is 6.55 miles.

Officer Williard runs an average of 85 miles each week. He will run in several races leading up to the Columbus Half Marathon in October and aspires to make the Columbus Running Company’s elite team. He ran for Otterbein University before attending the Patrol Academy. He is assigned to Capitol Operations.

Criminal Patrol



Troopers Chad Schell and Brian McGill participated in the Akron K-9 Challenge in May with 15 police K-9 officers from multiple agencies participated in the challenge. Trooper Schell took first place and Trooper McGill took second place in obedience. Both placed in the top five overall.

Warren Post



Lieutenant Brian T. Holt, Warren Post commander, presented Chardon, Ohio, resident Linda Payne with a “Saved by the Belt Club” certificate. Payne was involved in a traffic crash in February – but because of her decision to buckle up, she survived.

Steubenville



Trooper Timothy Zook used a driving simulator to talk to Steubenville area high school students about the dangers of distracted driving.

Chad M. McGinty

Major Chad M. McGinty, Office of Field Operations, retired on January 6, 2017 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 Defiance Post. He transferred to the Mansfield Post in 1990 where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1993.



In 1996, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant to serve as an assistant post commander at the Fremont Post. As a sergeant, he also served at the Bucyrus, Mansfield and Ashland posts. In 2006, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant to serve as commander of the Mt. Gilead Post. In 2011, he was promoted to staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of the Superintendent/Government Affairs. In 2013, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the Office of Special Operations, Protective Services/Government Affairs. In 2014, he was promoted to the rank of major and transferred to the Office of Field Operations to serve as commander.

Major McGinty completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2006.

Kenneth M. Garloch, Jr.

Staff Lieutenant Kenneth M. Garloch Jr., Bucyrus District Headquarters, retired on January 20, 2017, after 31 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1985 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Lisbon Post. He became a member of the 115th Academy Class in November 1985. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to the Cambridge Post.



In 1992, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Springfield Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Marion Post to serve as post commander. In 2003, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Bucyrus District Headquarters.

Staff Lieutenant Garloch earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in accounting from Youngstown State University in 1985. He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 1998.

Cliff L. Schaffner

Staff Lieutenant Cliff L. Schaffner, Wilmington District Headquarters, retired on April 14, 2017 after over 39 years with the Patrol. Staff Lieutenant Schaffner began his Patrol career in December 1977 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Batavia and Lebanon posts. He began training as a member of the 107th Academy Class in January 1980. He earned his commission in May of that year and was assigned to the Dayton Post.



He was selected as Post and District Trooper of the year in 1987 and Post Trooper of the year in 1988. In 1990, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Hamilton Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1994, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Xenia Post to serve as post commander. In 2000, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Wilmington District Headquarters to serve as an assistant district commander. He also served on the Patrol's Special Response Team.

Michael D. Combs

Lieutenant Michael D. Combs, Cleveland District Criminal Patrol Unit, retired on May 30, 2017, after 27 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1990 as a member of the 119th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Medina Post



where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1995. As a trooper, he also served at the former Massillon Post.

In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Hiram Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1999, he earned the prestigious Superintendent's Citation of Merit Award. As a sergeant, he also served at the former Akron, Canton and Medina posts. In 2006, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Ashland Post to serve as post commander. As a lieutenant, he also served in the Cleveland, Northeast Regional and Warren District Criminal Patrol Units.

He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2008.

Douglas L. Eck

Lieutenant Douglas L. Eck, Xenia Post, retired on January 20, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1992 as a member of the 122nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Springfield Post. In 1994, he transferred to the former Eaton Post.



While at the Eaton Post, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year three times and District Trooper of the Year twice. In 2000, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and returned to the Springfield Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Dayton Post. In 2007, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and remained at the Dayton Post to serve as post commander. Lieutenant Eck also served as a post commander at the Xenia Post.

Mark A. Leach

Lieutenant Mark A. Leach, Columbus Metro Post, retired on January 5, 2017, after 23 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1993 as a member of the 124th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Chillicothe Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Jackson and West Jefferson posts, the Columbus District Licensing Commercial Standard Unit, and the Academy.



In 2007, he was selected as the GHQ Trooper Recognition award winner. In 2008, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and remained at the Academy. As a sergeant, he also served at the Granville Post.

In 2013, he was selected as the Columbus District Thomas Rice Leadership award winner and was promoted to lieutenant assuming command of the Mt. Gilead Post. In 2016, he transferred to the Columbus Metro Post.

Retirements in this issue of the Flying Wheel include those employees who retired from January 5 through June 30, 2017.

William R. Bancroft

Sergeant William R. Bancroft, Administrative Investigations Unit, retired on April 7, 2017, after 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in March 1988 as a member of the 117th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Hiram Post, where he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year in 1991. As a trooper he served at the Canfield Post, Aviation Section and Warren District Criminal Investigations. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant. As a sergeant, he served at the Ravenna and Warren posts, as well as the Administrative Investigations Unit.



Thomas J. Holbert

Sergeant Thomas J. Holbert, Athens Post, retired on February 4, 2017, after nearly 28 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 Athens Post. As a trooper, he served at the Marietta Post and in the Office of Special Operations. He was also selected as Post Trooper of the Year three times. In 2008, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Athens Post to serve as an assistant post commander. Sergeant Holbert also served at the Jackson Post.



Richard C. Logsdon

Sergeant Richard C. Logsdon, Marion Post, retired on February 15, 2017, after nearly 37 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1980 as a member of the 108th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Marion Post. As a trooper, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year four times. In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Bucyrus Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served in the Bucyrus District Criminal Patrol Unit and at the Marion Post.



Rod A. Moser

Sergeant Rod A. Moser, Columbus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on March 10, 2017, after nearly 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1987 as a member of the 116th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Dayton Post.



In 1993, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Marion Post to serve as an assistant post commander. He also served at the Springfield Post, Office of Criminal Investigations, Circleville and West Jefferson posts, and the Columbus District Commercial Enforcement Unit.

Sergeant Moser completed the Administrative Officer's Course at the Southern Police Institute in 1999.

Linda A. Piechnik

Sergeant Linda A. Piechnik, Columbus Metro Post, retired on January 20, 2017, after 21 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in May 1995 as a member of the 127th Academy Class. She earned her commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Lima Post.



As a trooper, she also served at the Lancaster Post and in the Office of Criminal Investigations. In 2004, she was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to Special Operations. As a sergeant, she also served in Capitol Operations and at the Delaware and Columbus Metro posts.

Bruce D. Zuchowski

Sergeant Bruce D. Zuchowski, Hiram Post, retired on May 13, 2017, after 26 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1991 as a member of the 121st Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Chardon Post.



In 1994, he transferred to the Warren Post where he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 2002 and 2003. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and returned to the Chardon Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Ravenna and Hiram posts.

Larry C. Anderson

Trooper Larry C. Anderson, Portsmouth Post, retired on June 10, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1992 as a member of the 122nd Academy Class. He earned his commission that June and was assigned to the Bucyrus Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Jackson and Chillicothe posts. In 2008, he earned the Criminal Patrol Award.



John T. Baranowski

Trooper John T. Baranowski, Swanton Post, retired on February 24, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1992 as a member of the 122nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Swanton Post. He also served at the Toledo Post.



Randy S. Boggs

Trooper Randy S. Boggs, Jackson District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on April 14, 2017, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1987 as a member of the 116th Academy Class. He earned his commission that September and was assigned to the Ironton Post where he was Post Trooper of the Year in 1997 and 2006. In 2012, he transferred to the Jackson District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2016, he earned the District Trooper Recognition Award.



Dwayne A. Dotson

Trooper Dwayne A. Dotson, Swanton Post, retired on April 28, 2017, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1987 as a member of the 116th Academy Class. He earned his commission that September and was assigned to the Swanton Post where he was Post Trooper of the Year in 1997 and earned the Certificate of Recognition in 2009.



Nathan H. Dutton

Trooper Nathan H. Dutton, Lancaster Post, retired on May 25, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Ashtabula Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Lancaster Post and the Columbus District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



Pete Edgington

Trooper Pete Edgington, Georgetown Post, retired on March 16, 2017, after 24 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1993 as a member of the 124th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Georgetown Post throughout his career.



Keith A. Fellure

Trooper Keith A. Fellure, Jackson District Criminal Investigations, retired on January 20, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1992 as a member of the 122nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Athens Post. In 1999, he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Gallipolis and Portsmouth posts and Jackson District Criminal Investigations.



Tamara L. Getz-Wright

Trooper Tamara L. Getz-Wright, Office of Criminal Investigations, retired on May 9, 2017, after 31 years with the Patrol. Trooper Getz-Wright began her Patrol career in December 1986 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Springfield Post. She began training as a member of the 118th Academy Class



in May 1989. She earned her commission in November of that year and was assigned to the former Bellefontaine Post. As a trooper, she served at the Springfield, Lima, Findlay, Circleville and Dayton posts. She has also worked in Special Operations, Investigative Operations, Capitol Operations and the Office of Criminal Investigations.

Thomas P. Halligan

Trooper Thomas P. Halligan, Warren District Criminal Investigations, retired on January 6, 2017, after 31 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 Portsmouth Post. As a trooper he served at the Ravenna Post, Cleveland Operations and Warren District Criminal Investigations. Trooper Halligan also earned the Trooper Recognition Award three times during his career.



Mica J. Hatcher

Trooper Mica J. Hatcher, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on May 19, 2017, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1987 as a member of the 116th Academy Class. He earned his commission in August of that year and was assigned to the former Bellefontaine Post. As a trooper, he also served at Xenia, Marysville, and the Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit.

Trooper Hatcher served in the United States Navy Reserve from 1984 to 1996.



John Hernandez

Trooper John Hernandez, Office of Field Operations, entered disability retirement on June 23, 2017, after 18 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1998 as a member of the 132nd Academy Class.

He earned his commission in April of the following year and was assigned to the Swanton Post where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 2002. In 2010, he transferred to the Office of Field Operations, to serve on the Special Response Team.



Robert E. Kawecki

Trooper Robert E. Kawecki, Warren Post, retired on April 21, 2017, after 19 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1997 as a member of the 130th Academy Class. He earned his commission in May of the following year and was assigned to the Bucyrus Post.

As a trooper, he served at the Ravenna and Warren posts. He was also selected as Ravenna Post Trooper of the Year twice.



Springfield Post.

Trooper Myers was selected as Post Trooper of the Year twice. He also earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement twice. In 1996, he earned the prestigious Blue Max Award and was selected as District Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Xenia Post.



Roger J. Kuhn

Trooper Roger J. Kuhn, Warren District Criminal Investigations, retired on March 31, 2017, 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 Ravenna Post.

As a trooper, he also served in Cleveland Operations, Cleveland District Criminal Investigations and Warren District Criminal Investigations.



Patricia M. Nemeth

Trooper Patricia M. Nemeth, Circleville Post, retired on March 3, 2017, after 32 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in April 1985 as a member of the 114th Academy Class. She earned her commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Jackson Post.

As a trooper, she also served at the Chillicothe and Circleville posts. Trooper Nemeth earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in 1984.



Craig A. Malone

Trooper Craig A. Malone, Medina Post, entered disability retirement on April 21, 2017, after 10 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in November 2006 as a member of the 147th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of the following year and was assigned to the Bucyrus Post.

As a trooper he served at the Medina Post, Cleveland Operations and Cleveland Post. Trooper Malone also earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement three times throughout his career.



Susan K. Reiff

Trooper Susan K. Reiff, Bucyrus Post, retired on May 5, 2017, after 23 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in February 1994 as a member of the 126th Academy Class.

She earned her commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Van Wert Post. As a trooper, she also served at the Bucyrus Post.



Harold T. Myers

Trooper Harold T. Myers, Springfield Post, retired on June 23, 2017, after 26 years of state service. He began his state career with the Ohio Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in January 1991. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission that November and was assigned to the

Yvette M. Renicker

Trooper Yvette M. Renicker, New Philadelphia Post, retired on February 18, 2017, after 23 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in February 1994 as a member of the 126th Academy Class.

She earned her commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Bucyrus Post. As a trooper, she also served at the New Philadelphia Post.



Robert G. Ruth

Trooper Robert G. Ruth, Chillicothe Post, retired on January 6, 2017, after 28 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in March 1988 as a member of the 117th Academy Class.

He earned his commission in September of that year, and was assigned to the Portsmouth Post. In 1990, he transferred to the Wilmington Post where he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year in 1995. As a trooper, he also served at the Wilmington District Headquarters, as well as the Wilmington and Chillicothe posts.



David H. Simpson

Trooper David H. Simpson, Elyria Post, retired on May 12, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Chardon Post.

He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1999 and 2004. He also earned criminal patrol certificates in 2000, 2001 and 2004. As a trooper, he served in the Warren District Criminal Investigations, Cleveland Operations, Cleveland District Criminal Investigations, and the Cleveland and Elyria posts.



Randall L. Skaggs

Trooper Randall L. Skaggs, Warren Post, retired on March 31, 2017, after 31 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in November 1985 as a member of the 115th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to the Hiram Post.

Trooper Skaggs served at the Canfield, Warren, Lisbon and Chardon posts, as well as the Warren District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 1987, he earned the Robert M. Chiamonte Humanitarian Award and the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement.



James R. VanCamp

Trooper James R. VanCamp, Fremont Post, retired on May 12, 2017, after 34 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in November 1982 as a member of the 112th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of the following year and was assigned to the Circleville Post.

In 1986, he transferred to the Fremont Post. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1988.



Scott W. Whitlatch

Trooper Scott W. Whitlatch, Capitol Operations, retired on February 24, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1991 as a member of the 122nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Mt. Gilead Post.

In 1999, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served in Capitol Operations.



Michael S. Williams

Trooper Michael S. Williams, Hamilton Post, retired on May 26, 2017, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. Trooper Williams earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Defiance Post.

As a trooper, he served at the Hamilton Post and the Wilmington District Commercial Enforcement Unit. Trooper Williams earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 1996 and 1998.



Jerry L. Jividen

Central Office Agent Jerry L. Jividen retired on May 26, 2017, after 32 years with the state of Ohio. He began his state law enforcement career in December 1988 as an agent in the Food Stamp Fraud Unit, then with the Department of Agriculture and ultimately with the Ohio Investigative Unit.



He was assigned to the Columbus and Athens district offices and worked as an evidence officer and a field training officer. In October 2014, he transferred to the Central Office as the Evidence Officer.

He began his career in October 1977 with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services. He worked as a deputy sheriff in between state service. He completed the Lancaster Police Academy in March 1983 and worked as a deputy sheriff until joining the Department of Agriculture.

Michael J. Smith

Columbus District Agent Michael J. Smith retired on May 31, 2017, after 25 years with the Ohio Department of Public Safety. He began his career in April 1992 as a police officer with the Ohio State Highway Patrol. In April 2002, he transferred to the Ohio Investigative Unit to become an agent. He worked in the Athens and the Columbus district offices, served as a field training officer for both the Patrol and OIU and assisted with Sober Truth and Alcohol Server Knowledge courses.



Agent Smith worked as a Reynoldsburg Police Reserve Officer from July 1990 to April 1992. He attended the Southern Ohio College Private Police Training from 1987 to 1988. He completed the Central Ohio Police Officers' Training Academy in January 1991.

Donald O. Dailey

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Donald O. Dailey, Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on February 28, 2017, after 18 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in December 1998 as a maintenance repair worker 2 assigned to the Mansfield Post.



In 2000, he was promoted

to a motor carrier enforcement inspector and transferred to the Cleveland District Commercial Enforcement Unit. As a motor carrier enforcement inspector, he also served in the Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2014, he earned the Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector of the Year Award.

Jill C. Fox

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Jill C. Fox, Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on March 31, 2017, after 32 years with the state. She began her state career with the Ohio Department of Transportation in April 1985. In 1987, she transferred to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. In 1995, she transferred to the Patrol as a motor carrier enforcement inspector 2 assigned to Bucyrus District Headquarters. She was also selected as the Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector of the Year in 2009 and 2010.



Howard E. Reineck

Portable Load Limit Inspector Howard E. Reineck, Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on January 31, 2017, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1987 as a motor vehicle inspector assigned to the Sandusky Post. In 1994 he transferred to the Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2014, he served as a portable load limit inspector and remained at the Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



Portable Load Limit Inspector Reineck earned an Associate of Science degree in applied natural science from Hocking College in 1983.

Douglas Macarthy

Dispatcher Douglas Macarthy, Medina Dispatch Center, retired on February 17, 2017, after 23 years with the Patrol. He began his Patrol career in August 1993 as a dispatcher assigned to the Elyria Post. As a dispatcher, he also served at the Medina Post.



Marcia G. Carroll

Infrastructure Specialist 2 Marcia G. Carroll, Cleveland District, retired on March 24, 2017, after 30 years with the state. She began her career with the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction in March 1987.

In 1989, she transferred to the Patrol as a Clerk II assigned to the Chillicothe Post. In 1994, she was promoted to Secretary. In 2000, she was promoted to Network Administrator 1 and transferred to the Jackson District Headquarters.

In 2002, she was promoted to Network Administrator 2. In 2009, she earned the Gold Star Award. In 2010, she was promoted to Infrastructure Specialist 2. As an Infrastructure Specialist 2, she also served at the Warren and Cleveland district headquarters.

Infrastructure Specialist 2 Carroll earned an Associate of Business degree in computer science from Southeastern Business College.



Lisa K. Richmond

External Auditor 2 Lisa K. Richmond, LEADS, retired on February 17, 2017, after 31 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in November 1985 as a dispatcher assigned to the West Jefferson Post. In 1986, she was selected as Post Dispatcher of the Year.

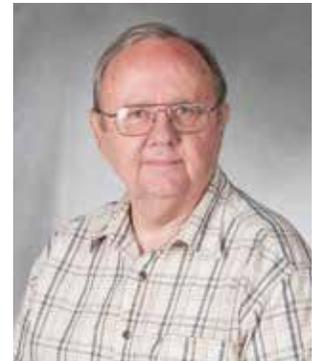
In 1990, she was promoted to data security specialist assigned to LEADS. From 1992 to 2004, she served as LEADS Trainer. In 2005, her classification was changed to external auditor 2 and she remained at LEADS.



John D. Vaughters

Software Development Specialist John D. Vaughters, Computer Operations, retired on June 30, 2017, after 12 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in March 2006 as a Programmer Specialist 1 assigned to Computer Operations.

In 2010, he was promoted to Software Development Specialist and remained in Computer Operations. He served in the United States Air Force from 1969 to 1974.



Donovan E. Myers

Maintenance Repair Worker 2 Donovan E. Myers, Georgetown Post, retired on June 30, 2017, after five years with the Patrol. He began his career with the Patrol in May 2012 as a maintenance repair worker 2 and was assigned to the Georgetown Post throughout his career.



In the next issue:

Retiree Cookout
Buckeye Girls State and Buckeye
Boys State
Junior Cadet
½ Units Association

Marietta Honorary Trooper
State & Provincial Police Academy
Directors Conference
Velez Interstate 90 Dedication

OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Chaplain's Comments



Sitting in front of my iPad the other day with the Flying Wheel publication deadline facing me I realized that I was in “neutral.”

Although I was open to an inspirational thought or experience all was quiet on the mental front. I sat and stared at the key pad wondering what might be significant to share in this article which I have the honor of writing. Then without warning a thought came to me in an email I received.

An officer in the Patrol whose identity will not be shared sent me an email expressing appreciation for a very minor thing I had done and he closed the communication with three magical words: “I love you.” Wow, that made my day and inspired me to express my belief in the importance of affirmation. We do not have the three words for love as did the Greeks. But that should not keep us from expressing our deep affection for one another.

It is very important from my perspective to express our love verbally and often. When one goes out for duty in any form it is important to have the last words spoken between partners or parents and children to be centered in love. About 10 years ago I was called out of a Patrol Awards Ceremony to go to the emergency room to see our youngest daughter. When I arrived I discovered that she had already died, the victim of a heart attack and seizure. There had been some challenges in her life but she had her head on straight and was going to classes to expand her vocational opportunities. On that morning she had come to the house early to trade cars so she could take some fellow students on a field trip. My memory is vivid of the last time we spoke. There was a quick hug and kiss with the words from each of us: “I love you.” What a blessed memory that is for me.

Now please understand, I am not suggesting that kissing should become part of the ritual. That is well left for marriage and parent-child relationships. But I am reminded of the importance of affirming words of affection. The emotionally strongest man who ever lived was not hesitant to declare His love for His associates. In John 15:17 Jesus is quoted as saying: “This is my command: Love each other.” We should not hesitate to use the words even though we may have to add: “But I do not like what you are doing.”

The expression of love can take many forms not always using the words although not hesitating to do so at appropriate times and situations. An expression of appreciation conveys the idea of love and can lift someone for whom life may have become routine or difficult.

In making hospital calls, I have tried to take the time to tell nurses and cleaning personnel alike that they are doing a tremendous job in servicing others. The reward for me is the smile they offer in response. Everyone has a need for love; it is a basic need. But it is a need which can be met by very little effort on the part of each of us as we take the time to express affirming love to others.

On a very hot summer afternoon a couple of years ago, I was waiting for someone outside an office building. Standing in the shade, I saw a postal worker drive up to a drop box. The box was in the direct sunlight and the fellow was already showing evidence of some heat exhaustion as he got down on his knees to empty the box. I hesitated for a moment and then went over and greeted him with a smile. He did not even look up; he just muttered, “OK, what’s wrong now? Didn’t you get your mail today?” My response was that there was nothing wrong. All I wanted was to express appreciation for his service. He stood and looked at me as if I was joking. When I assured him I was serious, he shook his head and told me that in all the years he had been working for the postal service, he had received many complaints, but almost no words of appreciation. With a handshake we parted company, but both of us were feeling better about life.

The words of the Lord have meaning for law enforcement, don’t they? “Love each other as I have loved you (remembering that) greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for another.” (John 15:13)

Please always remember that Chaplain Phil Hurlbert and I love and admire all of you for what you do and who you are. It is a tremendous blessing to be part of the Ohio State Highway 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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IMPACT 2017



More than 5,100 students from Southeast Ohio and West Virginia attended the 2017 Prom Pledge, Impact, Inc., at the Ohio University Convocation Center. During the event students are encouraged to make better choices concerning their health, safety and future. The Ohio State Highway Patrol has participated in the event for more than 10 years.

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