

FLYING



WHEEL

Vol. 56 No. 1

Winter 2018



STATE TROOPER OF THE YEAR

Trooper Brittany N. Noah

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4. LEADERSHIP AWARDS

At a ceremony that honored many individuals for their hard work over the past year, the 2017 Ohio State Highway Patrol Leadership Awards concluded with Trooper Brittany N. Noah's selection as State Trooper of the Year.

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12. PROACTIVE PATROL

A new support initiative by the Aviation Unit has allowed for faster response times when it comes to providing service to troopers and local agencies.

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16. EPIC

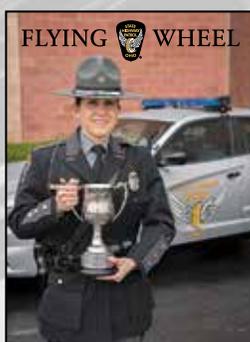
Law enforcement officials from Ohio and the Drug Enforcement Administration visited the DEA's El Paso Intelligence Center in Texas.

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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.



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ON THE COVER

Trooper Brittany N. Noah is the 2017 State Trooper of the Year.

Please see story on page 4 to see everyone recognized at the 2017 Leadership Awards.

OHIO STATE
TROOPER
OF THE
YEAR
2017

OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Colonel's Letter



The late Colonel Robert M. Chiamonte said, “The past has been good, the present we believe better, and the future lies with the progressive thinkers and doers who are planning for tomorrow.”

As we enter our 85th year of service, we pause to salute our forbearers, who built the foundation for what our Patrol has become. These men and women were committed to achieving things that others thought impossible and created the legacy we cherish today. Our reputation as a national leader in law enforcement is a credit to those who have served and those currently serving.

The establishment of our Leadership Awards began with Colonel Chiamonte, he recognized the need to celebrate significant individual contributions and the positive impact they make on society and our mission. In the following pages, we celebrate our best and brightest: the recipients of the 2017 Leadership Awards. These individuals are synonymous with our values of strength, courage and character. Each of these men and women made outstanding personal efforts to achieve this recognition and each of them had a strong team behind them.

Our accomplishments over the last seven years are of historic proportions. In advancement of our mission, troopers have made over 170,000 OVI arrests, issued nearly 750,000 seatbelt tickets, made almost 77,000 drug arrests and removed over 4,000 illegal weapons from our communities. During the same time, fatal crashes and violent crime has continued to decline in our state.

Our past has been good, our present is better and our future is bright. The Ohio State Highway Patrol has never been stronger and we continue to plan for our future by making investments in training, equipment, facilities and most importantly leadership. The Patrol is primed for success and I ask each of you to continue your efforts to contribute to a safer Ohio!

Noblesse Oblige

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colonel Paul A. Pride". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Colonel Paul A. Pride
Superintendent



Trooper of the Year

Brittany N. Noah

Trooper Brittany N. Noah, of the Wilmington Post, earned top honors as the 2017 State Trooper of the Year. She was selected from nine District Troopers of the Year across the state. Trooper Noah exemplifies what it means to be a trooper and is a leader among her peers.

Trooper Noah has established herself as a resource to the Patrol and the community she serves. She prides herself in professional service and treats everyone with respect. Trooper Noah gives back to her community by serving as a softball coach and a mentor for youth. She also serves as a 4-H adviser for the New Vienna Buckeyes and has been a member for 10 years.

Trooper Noah joined the Patrol in November 2012 as a member of the 154th Academy Class. She earned her commission in April of the following year and has been assigned to the Wilmington Post throughout her career. In 2017, she was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. Trooper Noah is a certified Drug Recognition Expert and serves as a field training officer.



Trooper of the Year (from left): Lieutenant Stanley A. Jordan, Captain Paul E. Hermes, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Trooper Brittany N. Noah and Director John Born.

Trooper Noah earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice from Wilmington College in 2011 and a Master of Arts degree in criminal justice from Wright State University in 2012.

DISTRICT TROOPER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Trooper William R. Clay Findlay District
 Trooper Kayla L. Cramer Bucyrus District
 Trooper Carlos M. Castellanos Cleveland District
 Trooper Matthew R. Abbey Warren District

Trooper John D. Mcleod Piqua District
 Trooper Patrick M. White Columbus District
 Trooper Rocky J. Hise Cambridge District
 Trooper Steven M. Dunn Jackson District

Dispatcher of the Year

Dispatcher Tina M. Frey, of the Findlay Dispatch Center, earned statewide honors as the 2017 Dispatcher of the Year. She was selected from nine District Dispatchers of the Year across the state. Her calm demeanor, positive attitude and commitment to service distinguished her from the other nominees.

Communications professionals are often the first point of contact for the public when need arises. Dispatcher Frey strives to provide the highest level of service to the public, her co-workers and the troopers on her shift. She garnered praise for her teamwork and serves as a dispatcher training officer.

Dispatcher Frey joined the Patrol in October 2004 and was assigned to the Marion Post. She also served at the Bucyrus Dispatch Center.



Dispatcher of the Year (from left): Captain John C. Altman, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Dispatcher Tina M. Frey and Director John Born.

DISTRICT DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Dispatcher Heidi J. Maloy.....Bucyrus District
 Dispatcher Robin S. Case.....Cleveland District
 Dispatcher Tamara A. Scheetz Warren District
 Dispatcher Brandy L. Johnson Piqua District
 Dispatcher Zachary L. Hungler Columbus District

Dispatcher Melissa J. RathCambridge District
 Dispatcher Jessica L. ShepherdWilmington District
 Dispatcher Brandi D. Trelka..... Jackson District
 Dispatcher Erin N. Garloch.....GHQ

Ohio Investigative Unit Agent of the Year



Joshua C. Bowers, Cincinnati District Office, was selected as State Agent of the Year out of six District Agents of the Year across the state.

Agent Bowers joined the Ohio Investigative Unit in December 2013 and has been assigned to the Cincinnati District Office throughout his career.

OIU DISTRICT AWARD WINNERS

Agent Wesley Arbaugh..... Athens District
 Agent Kenneth E. VanHorn.....Canton District
 Agent Kevin J. Cesaratto Cleveland District
 Agent Kelly N. Murnane Columbus District
 Agent Brian C. Sargent Toledo District

Robert M. Chiaramonte Humanitarian Award

Trooper Logan M. Kirkendall, of the Toledo Post, was honored with the Robert M. Chiaramonte Humanitarian Award, which recognizes officers dedicated to humanitarian causes on the highway and in their communities.

He and his wife distributed bags with toiletries and other supplies to homeless persons. The bags included toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, hats, gloves, socks and blankets. After distributing nearly two dozen bags, Trooper Kirkendall sought support from the Lima First Assembly of God and the Toledo Calvary Church. Combined, the churches provided nearly 200 bags. He also garnered support from fellow troopers and local police officers who helped distribute the bags.

Trooper Kirkendall also participates in “Young Men of Excellence,” through his church. The program embodies the same quality characteristics he represents. Through the program, he and three others mentor a group of young men in the community, providing positive influences in their lives.

Trooper Kirkendall joined the Patrol in September 2012 as a member of the 153rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in February of the following year and has been assigned to the Toledo Post throughout his



From left: Captain John C. Altman, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Trooper Logan M. Kirkendall and Director John Born.

career. In 2014, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. In 2016, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year and earned the Criminal Patrol Award.

CHIARAMONTE AWARD NOMINEES

Trooper Kayla L. Crager..... Bucyrus District
 Trooper Cyara C. Castillo.....Cleveland District
 Lieutenant Antonio L. MatosWarren District
 Trooper Kathleen M. DurhamPiqua District

Trooper Patrick M. White..... Columbus District
 Trooper Eric J. Derrington,.....Cambridge District
 Sergeant John R. Howard.....Jackson District



From left: Captain Michael D. Kemmer, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Sergeant Lawrence Roberts and Director John Born.

Blue Max Award

Sergeant Lawrence Roberts, Cleveland Post, earned the Blue Max Award for recovering the most stolen vehicles of any trooper in 2017. Throughout the year, he recovered 17 stolen vehicles, valued at \$214,288, resulting in the apprehension of 17 suspects.

Sergeant Roberts joined the Patrol in February 1999 as a member of the 133rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Sandusky Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Chardon, Canton and Cleveland posts and the Motorcycle Unit. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year four times and District Trooper of the Year in 2003. He has earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement five times. In 2013, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to Wooster to serve as an assistant post commander.

Sergeant Roberts served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1989 to 1993.

Colonel Thomas W. Rice Leadership Award

Sergeant Robert L. Burd, of the Wilmington Post, was honored with the Colonel Thomas W. Rice Leadership Award, which is presented to one sworn supervisory officer for outstanding leadership. The award is sponsored by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association and is in honor of former Patrol Superintendent Thomas W. Rice.

Sergeant Burd is a respected assistant post commander and leader among his peers. He has excelled in all areas of management by setting high standards and teaching those under his supervision. Troopers look to him for guidance and he fosters a team-oriented environment. Sergeant Burd leads by example, while keeping watch over his shift. He also volunteers at Dayton Children's Hospital and is a foster parent.

Sergeant Burd began his Patrol career 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 Findlay Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Lima Post. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year three times. In March 2011, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Lima Post to serve as an assistant post commander.



From left: Captain Paul E. Hermes, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Sergeant Robert L. Burd, Retired Colonel Tom Rice and Director John Born.

In 2013, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. As a sergeant, he has served at the Bowling Green, Findlay, Lebanon and Wilmington posts.

RICE AWARD NOMINEES

Sergeant Joseph R. Sisco Findlay District
 Sergeant Jason P. Murfield Bucyrus District
 Sergeant Clifton D. Dowell..... Cleveland District
 Sergeant Brian M. Vail..... Warren District
 Sergeant Dallas E. Root Piqua District

Sergeant Christian J. Niemeyer Columbus District
 Sergeant Nathan E. Dennis..... Cambridge District
 Sergeant Christopher B. Goss Jackson District
 Sergeant Christopher L. Ellison..... General Headquarters

Criminal Patrol Award

Trooper Chad M. Schell, of the Cleveland District Criminal Patrol Unit, earned the State Criminal Patrol Award for conducting the most felony case investigations that led to felony arrests. In 2017, he initiated 72 felony case investigations which resulted in 89 felony arrests. The majority of his cases were drug or weapon related. Highlights of his criminal seizures this year include, 423 pounds of marijuana, 11 pounds of cocaine, 8 pounds of heroin, 739 pills, 1 pound of methamphetamine and eight firearms.

Trooper Schell joined the Patrol in September 2012 as a member of the 153rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in February 2013 and was assigned to the Cleveland Post. In 2014, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year and earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. He also has earned the Criminal Patrol Award four times.



From left: Captain Michael D. Kemmer, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Trooper Chad M. Schell and Director John Born.

MCEI of the Year Award



From left: Captain David R. Allwine, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Brian K. Wilson and Director John Born.

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Brian K. Wilson, of the Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, was selected as Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector of the Year.

MCEI Wilson began his career with the Patrol in February 2016 as a Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector and has been assigned to the Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit throughout his career.

DISTRICT MCEI NOMINEES

- MCEI Thomas E. Huff Findlay District
- MCEI Edward D. Adkins Cleveland District
- MCEI Glen L. Maffitt Warren District
- Trooper Randy E. Lewis Piqua District
- MCEI Arthur E. Philabaum Columbus District
- MCEI Timothy W. Shindle Cambridge District
- MCEI Richard M. Scott Wilmington District
- MCEI Anthony R. Lester Jackson

ET of the Year Award



From left: Captain Kenneth J. Kocob, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Electronic Technician 2 Christopher L. Stroop and Director John Born.

Electronic Technician 2 Christopher L. Stroop, of the Columbus District, was selected as Electronic Technician of the Year.

Electronic Technician 2 Stroop joined the Patrol in July 2013 and has been assigned to the Columbus District Electronic Technician Unit throughout his career.

DISTRICT ET NOMINEES

- ET2 Thomas E. Fowler Findlay District
- ET3 Frederick R. Lust Bucyrus District
- ET3 Matthew D. Metzger Cleveland District
- ET2 Donald M. Evans Warren District
- ET2 John V. Trittschuh Piqua District
- ET2 Devan J. Phillis Cambridge District
- ET2 Jeffery A. Boatman Wilmington District
- ET3 Joshua J. Goins Jackson District
- ET1 William J. Massey GHQ

Police Officer of the Year

Police Officer 2 Joshua B. Davis, Capitol Operations, was selected as Police Officer of the Year. Officer Davis joined the Patrol in August 2011 and has been assigned to Capitol Operations throughout this career.

From left: Captain Patrick E. Kellum, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Police Officer 2 Joshua B. Davis and Director John Born.



Ohio Trooper Recognition Award



From left: Captain Paul E. Hermes, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Trooper Lonnie M. Butler and Director John Born.

Trooper Lonnie M. Butler, Wilmington District Criminal Patrol, earned the Ohio Trooper Recognition Award from nine regional recipients across the state. The award recognizes excellence among troopers who are assigned to specialty positions.

He joined the Patrol in March 2005 as a member of the 144th Academy Class. He earned his commission in October of that year and was assigned to the Lima Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Georgetown Post and the Wilmington District Criminal Investigations.

Trooper Butler earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice from Thomas More College in 2001 and a Master of Science degree in criminal justice from the University of Cincinnati in 2003.

TROOPER RECOGNITION AWARDS

Trooper Ann M. Malone Findlay District
 Trooper Shane M. Morrow Bucyrus District
 Trooper Dora E. Abshire Cleveland District
 Trooper Ricky T. Caraway Warren District
 Trooper Christopher A. Ward Piqua District
 Trooper Michael R. Wilson Columbus District
 Trooper Shawn F. Milburn Cambridge District
 Trooper Joshua C. Craft Jackson District

Employee Recognition Award



From left: Captain Charles J. Linek, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Program Administrator 2 Jessica L. Scalley and Director John Born.

Program Administrator 2 Jessica L. Scalley, Office of Personnel, received the award presented annually to recognize excellence by a civilian employee.

Program Administrator Scalley began her state career in June 2010 as a clerk assigned to the Cambridge District. She also served as a Program Administrator 1 at the Patrol's Training Academy. In 2013, she transferred to the Office of Personnel. In January 2018, she was promoted to Program Administrator 2 and remained in the Office of Personnel.

Program Administrator Scalley earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminology from The Ohio State University in 2012.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS

MRW2 Robert E. Elling, Jr. Findlay District
 AP1 Brandy N. Rohrbacher Bucyrus District
 MRW2 Timothy D. Kardamis Cleveland District
 AP1 Charlene M. Grady Warren District
 MRW2 Jody A. Henault Piqua District
 AP1 Brenda S. Cole Columbus District
 MRW2 Thomas A. Duvall Cambridge District
 AP1 Jennifer L. Young Wilmington District
 MRW2 Carl R. McGlone Jackson District
 PSIA Mark A. Wong Logistics & Security Services
 AP4 Sherry L. Harkness Planning and Finance
 AP3 Jaclyn D. Snyder Criminal Investigations

Family Member Recognition Award



From left: Captain Christopher J. Zurcher, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Jean Paris and Director John Born.

Jean Paris is this year’s recipient for the Family Member Recognition Award. She has become an advocate for police-related deaths since the unexpected death of her husband. She is actively involved in the Lorain County Blue Foundation, a non-profit organization that helps critically injured officers and fallen officers’ families. Paris started a private Facebook group that is designed to help other fallen officer widows and discuss the struggles of dealing with the untimely death of a love one killed in the line of duty. She is the Vice President of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s 1/2 Units association.

PATROL FAMILY RECOGNITION AWARD

- Rosemary Fisher Findlay District
- Michelle Davis Bucyrus District
- Stephanie Royko Warren District
- Merinda Buchanan Piqua District
- Casie Johnson Cambridge District
- Elizabeth Dunn Wilmington District
- Sarah Balzer Jackson District

Distinguished Retiree Award



From left: Retirees’ Association President Robert Booker, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Mrs. Veronica Godlaski, Retired Sergeant Dale L. LaRue and Director John Born.

Retired Sergeant Dale L. LaRue is this year’s recipient of the Distinguished Retiree Award for how he still lives the life that exemplifies a trooper. He continues to go above and beyond when representing the Division by incorporating the core values into his daily life. LaRue is always present at retirements, the Ashland Post’s Christmas Party and rarely misses anything that honors the division. Retired Sergeant LaRue loves and takes great pride being part of the Patrol.

DISTRICT DISTINGUISHED RETIREE

- Kevin Thomas Findlay District
- Richard C. Logsdon Bucyrus District
- John W. Robinson Warren District
- Mike Kilgore Piqua District
- Harry Schwind Columbus District
- Charles R. Demuth Cambridge District
- Jeff B. Davis Wilmington District
- Hal Hardesty Jackson District

Auxiliary Officer of the Year

Auxiliary Colonel Bryon M. Doty joined the Patrol Auxiliary in 2011 and was assigned to the Delaware Post. In 2013, he was promoted to the rank of auxiliary lieutenant and remained at the Delaware Post. In 2014, he was promoted to the rank of auxiliary major and transferred to General Headquarters. In 2015, he was promoted to Auxiliary Colonel. He has been the recipient of both the Ulmer and Duffy awards, as well as multiple district awards.

In 2017, Auxiliary Colonel Doty volunteered 1,260 hours of his time in assistance with Patrol duties. This time included riding on patrol, assisting at the Ohio State Fair, The Ohio State University football game details, sobriety checkpoints, Shield Details and working at the Academy store.

Auxiliary Colonel Doty owns his own business installing security systems.



From left: Captain Robin R. Schmutz, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Auxiliary Colonel Bryon M. Doty and Director John Born.

William J. Duffy Award of Excellence

The William J. Duffy Award of Excellence requires a minimum of 300 volunteer hours per year over three consecutive years.

Auxiliary Major Mark A. Rush joined the Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary in September 2012 and was assigned to the Delaware Post. He was promoted to auxiliary sergeant in 2014 and to auxiliary lieutenant in 2015. In 2016, he was promoted to staff lieutenant and transferred to General Headquarters. In January 2017, he was promoted to auxiliary captain and promoted to auxiliary major of the Columbus District that September.

Over the last three years, he has volunteered an average of 915 hours per year which includes riding on patrol, assisting at the Ohio State Fair, The Ohio State University football game details, sobriety checkpoints, Shield Details and working at the Academy store.

Auxiliary Major Rush owns a recall consulting business and volunteers for the American Red Cross.



From left: Captain Robin R. Schmutz, Auxiliary Colonel Bryon M. Doty, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Auxiliary Major Mark A. Rush and Director John Born.

Aviation Unit Focuses on Proactive Patrol

By Alexis E. Bartolomucci

A new support initiative by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Aviation Unit has allowed for faster response times when it comes to providing service to troopers and local agencies. The Aviation Unit has had a flight crew available during the nighttime hours, but the crew would wait for a request before responding to the scene.

One of the most critical elements in determining the success of an aircrew's efforts is their response time. With the Aviation Unit's hanger located at The Ohio State University Airport on Columbus' northwest side, it can take over an hour of flight time to get to Ohio's furthest points. This extended response time limits the service the Aviation Unit could provide to a situation.

Proactive Patrol is a way for the nightshift crew to actively patrol over predetermined areas during the time where most pursuits and criminal activity occur. It is up to local commanders to determine where and when patrols will take place.

Once times and places are determined, the Patrol notifies local agencies, who are able to utilize the helicopter asset.

Nearly 70 percent of the air missions aid outside agencies and are provided at no cost to them. The other 30 percent of air missions aid Patrol operations.

Since the recent inception of this initiative, the response times have dramatically reduced. Aside from reducing response times, the Proactive Patrols have located suicidal subjects, intercepted numerous pursuits and located fleeing felons.

Support missions in 2017 increased in every statistic as compared to the prior year. There was an 11 percent increase in flight hours and total missions, criminal searches increased by three percent, Intelligence, Search and Response (ISR) missions increased by 19.5 percent and outside agency requests increased 17 percent.

The goal of Proactive Patrol is to provide better aerial support for the ground units in the field. Patrol helicopters are force multipliers; many high-risk incidents can be prevented or stopped before they turn into a serious matter. For example, a suspect may decide not to run because a helicopter is illuminating the area with a searchlight overhead and they could be easily spotted.



The overhead helicopter allows ground units to back off and slow down. The helicopter directs the ground unit to the suspects' every move and many times without a patrol car behind them blasting sirens and having pursuit lights on – which helps the ground units' driving patterns become safer for the community.

There are a number of goals set for 2018, including increasing the Proactive Patrol details to elevate the level of support that is available to the field. Other agencies can utilize this support when they are searching for or tracking a suspect. Recently, a pilot was on Proactive Patrol and helped Westerville police locate a suspect that was involved in a robbery earlier that evening. With the aerial view and camera technology the Patrol pilot provided, the suspect was located and taken into custody.

Aviation is also looking to grow the Tactical Flight Officer (TFO) program to help expand coverage times and increase effectiveness with ISR operations. The TFO program was developed in December 2017 and helps sustain future pilots for Aviation due to the ability to train in-house. It was created with the goal of creating an entrance into the pilot positions. A TFO serves as a camera and equipment operator inside the aircraft.



Proactive Patrol is one more way the Aviation Unit is contributing to a safer Ohio. The aircraft pilots are still able to oversee tracking and affect an arrest, without the potential safety impact to the public and officers.





Sergeant Timothy J. Hoffman Receives Recognition for Lifesaving Actions

Sergeant Timothy J. Hoffman of the Elyria Post and several other individuals were recognized in December at University Hospitals Elyria Medical Center's Gates auditorium for their efforts in saving the life of a Grafton Township man. Jerry Fowle had suffered from a severe heart attack and thanks to the help of a few good Samaritans and Sergeant Hoffman, he survived. Fowle is grateful to those who helped him and still keeps in touch.

Photo credit: Kristin Bauer of the Elyria Chronicle-Telegram



Trooper Donté Hanns Receives Certificate of Recognition

Trooper Donté M. Hanns and Nurse Ginger Havlin were awarded the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Certificate of Recognition on January 4 for their lifesaving actions in November. Trooper Hanns observed a car emitting smoke that had been involved in a crash near Fremont. Nurse Havlin was on scene and rendered first aid. During attempts to free the driver, the car caught fire. Trooper Hanns then broke the window and was able to remove the driver before the car became engulfed in flames.



Sergeant Jacob T. Tidaback Earns Certificate of Recognition

In December, Sergeant Jacob T. Tidaback witnessed a head-on crash in Huron County. He quickly approached the vehicle and observed the driver was unresponsive. A fire broke out in the engine compartment and Sergeant Tidaback removed the driver. Witnesses provided assistance to the driver as he extinguished the fire. Sergeant Tidaback provided CPR for the driver until EMS arrived. Despite his efforts, the driver later passed away. For his actions, Sergeant Tidaback was presented with a Certificate of Recognition.

Sergeant Burd Receives Certification of Recognition

In October, Sergeant Robert L. Burd knowingly risked his physical well-being to protect motorists on Interstate 71 from a wrong-way driver. When intentional contact failed, Sergeant Burd made contact for a second time preventing the driver from continuing. In December, Sergeant Burd was presented with a Certificate of Recognition by Captain Paul E. Hermes.



Cleveland State University Police Department Honors OIU Agents

In January, agents John Phillips, Sean Pall, Assistant Agent-in-Charge Robert L. Boldin and Cleveland State University Police Officer Dan Aholt were recognized by CSU Chief of Police Gary Lewis for their life-saving actions. The four law enforcement officials administered Narcan to three unresponsive individuals found in a parking lot near the CSU campus in December.



Troopers Dan DeLuca and Benjamin Miller Receive Certificate of Recognition

Troopers Daniel L. DeLuca and Benjamin T. Miller of the Canfield Post were presented with a Certificate of Recognition their lifesaving actions. Troopers DeLuca and Miller stopped at Chick-fil-A to eat when they noticed a young boy in distress showing signs of choking. Trooper Miller performed the Heimlich maneuver on the boy and successfully removed the obstruction.



Photo credit: The Vindicator

EPIC

In December, law enforcement officials from Ohio and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) arrived in Texas to visit the DEA's El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC). Housed on the grounds of Fort Bliss, EPIC coordinates the collection, analysis and dissemination of drug-related intelligence with federal, state, local and foreign law enforcement organizations.

The DEA intelligence program helps law enforcement initiate investigations of drug organizations, strengthens ongoing ones and disseminates information that leads to seizures and arrests.

While at EPIC, the group received an overview about the shared services EPIC provides so local resources can be used in other capacities. Services such as analytical support, investigatory support and training are tailored to an agency's specific need. Hardin County Sheriff Keith A. Everhart said, "The most rewarding part of the trip was learning how EPIC assists local offices at no cost. Many programs aren't discussed publicly, but have been shared by local officers and can be put in place in the future."

During the trip, Ohio's delegation also had the opportunity to take an aerial tour of the international boundary with Mexico and discuss operations with members of the Border Patrol. The delegation then traveled to the one of the largest international ports of entry, the Bridge of the Americas. While there, they observed agents from Customs and Border Protection screen commercial vehicles, cargo and passenger cars using x-ray technology.

The delegation also observed the process of screening the thousands of pedestrians who enter the country on a daily basis. EPIC shares information and intelligence gathered at the border and



nationwide to help law enforcement officials identify and arrest drug couriers.

Sheriff Everhart and Hardin County have reported local drug activity to EPIC for years. "In my 25 years at the sheriff's office, this was my most informative work trip I have ever taken," said Sheriff Everhart.

Members on the trip included Sheriff Michael L. Simpson of Preble County, Sheriff Thomas M. Riggerbach of Van Wert County,

Sheriff Matthew Treglia of Allen County, Sheriff Everhart, DEA Resident Agent in Charge James Goodwin and DEA Assistant Agent in Charge Keith Martin. Representing the Ohio State Highway Patrol were Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol Superintendent, Lieutenant Colonel Michael D. Black, Major B. Gene Smith and Captain Michael D. Kemmer.

Criminal Patrol 4th Quarter



Congratulations to the winners of Ace and Criminal Patrol Awards who were recognized on February 1. These troopers worked diligently to look “beyond the plate” in order to remove drugs from Ohio communities and return stolen vehicles to their rightful owners.

K9 Graduation



Seven K9 units graduated on February 1 from the Ohio State Highway Patrol. All K9 units were trained in-house. Graduates include: K9 Rexey with Trooper James M. Baker from the Cleveland District, K9 Xaro with Trooper Griffin P. Kelley from the Cleveland District, K9 Zeus with Trooper John L. Lamm from the Warren District, K9 Mickey with Trooper Matthew T. Atwood from the Jackson District, K9 Rocky with Trooper Timothy R. Markowski from the Jackson District and K9 Zarra with Officer Kyle Jacobs from the Whitehall Police Department. (Not pictured: K9 Atos with Trooper Colt W. Browne from the Bucyrus District).



Auxilliary gains 20 new members at February graduation

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary appointed 20 new volunteers on February 12, 2018.

Graduate	Post	Graduate	Post	Graduate	Post
Douglas Baker	Ravenna	Ryan Frisch	Mansfield	Nirav Patel	Marysville
Bryan Beal	Mansfield	Samuel George	Delaware	Tevan Ray	Lancaster
Forest Benner	Lancaster	Jami Hackworth	Springfield	Joshua Scharp	Findlay
Seth Borland	Lancaster	Scott Huddle	Dayton	Joseph Stallard	Mansfield
Paul Cantrell	Canton	Gage Hylton	Granville	Michael Wood	Steubenville
Nathaniel Dillard	Delaware	Joshua Jordan	Circleville	Andrew Woody	Marysville
Jalal Chaib	Granville	Christopher Kaczmarzky	Canton	Alexander Zavara	Ravenna



OSHP Crash Reconstructionists Revisit Thailand

Ohio State Highway Patrol crash reconstructionists arrived in Thailand on February 8 to work with and teach the Royal Thai Police. The class began on February 12 with Royal Thai Deputy Commissioner General Monote making opening remarks. A pre-test given to the class was used to evaluate the knowledge the Troopers and Royal Thai Police

had obtained. The classes covered Laws of Motion, a math review, acceleration and deceleration factors, skid testing, kinetic energy and more. This is the second time the Ohio State Highway Patrol has traveled to Thailand to work with the Royal Thai Police in crash reconstruction.

Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

The Cleveland Vehicle Theft Unit recently recovered a 2015 Mercedes S550 valued at \$73,000, which was re-numbered with a cloned VIN from a vehicle in Canada. The Mercedes was stolen in the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., area and allegedly purchased by a person in Cleveland. Contact was made with the Florida Highway Patrol and the VTFU learned FHP is currently investigating a large scale (high end) auto theft ring. To date, they have identified and recovered 159 vehicles. This Mercedes was listed as one of the vehicles involved in their investigation.

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In 2017, a trooper initiated several case investigations which resulted in the recovery of five stolen vehicles valued at \$100,000. One of his cases was in conjunction with several northeast Ohio police agencies related to the theft of 14 cargo vans. The investigation eventually led to the identification of the suspect and enough probable cause was developed to obtain a search warrant for the suspect's premises. The warrant was then executed and led to the recovery of three stolen vehicles including two cargo vans and their contents which included construction equipment and power tools. The total value of the recovered property was over \$122,000. The suspect was subsequently indicted for multiple counts of Receiving Stolen Property.



Ohio Investigative Unit

In June, an 18 year old in Harpersfield Township planned and hosted a party for underage persons. His mother purchased and supplied the beer, ice and coolers to be consumed by those attending. The grandmother of the 18 year old hosted the party at her residence and claimed she was aware of the party and that alcohol would be possessed and consumed by underage people. An 18-year-old partygoer consumed several cans of beer and shortly after midnight left the party while intoxicated, causing a fatal collision with a vehicle driven by a 20 year old. The mother's charges included attempted involuntary manslaughter, a fourth-degree felony and furnishing alcohol to underage persons, a first-degree misdemeanor. The grandmother was charged with furnishing alcohol to underage persons. The mother and grandmother of the 18-year-old host entered no contest pleas. The 18-year-old host's charges were obstructing official business, a second-degree misdemeanor and furnishing alcohol to underage persons.

Criminal Patrol

On February 7, 2018, troopers stopped a rented 2018 Chevrolet Malibu with Florida registration for a marked lanes violation on Interstate 80 in Summit County. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed a duffel bag containing more than 2 pounds of cocaine worth \$90,000. The driver, Pedro L. Valle, 30, and passenger, Miguel A. Dejesus, 31, both of Bridgeport Conn., were charged with possession of cocaine and trafficking in cocaine, both first-degree felonies. Both were incarcerated in the Summit County Jail.



...

On January 26, 2018, troopers stopped a 2009 Dodge Avenger with Oklahoma registration for a speed violation on Interstate 70 in Madison County. Criminal indicators were observed and the driver was removed from the vehicle. The passenger got into the driver seat and fled until the vehicle was disabled by stop sticks. A search of the vehicle revealed 10 pounds of methamphetamine worth \$100,000 and a loaded handgun. The suspects, Irene Vanderburg, 23, and Paul Lindahl, 52, both from Oklahoma City, both were charged with possession of schedule I substance, a second-degree felony, carrying concealed weapon, a fourth-degree felony and failure to comply, a third-degree felony. Both were incarcerated in the Franklin County Jail.



Cambridge/Zanesville Posts



The Cambridge and Zanesville posts participated in “Buying with Bears” on December 9. The event, organized by Trooper Timothy R. Cunningham, treated 21 children to a breakfast at McDonald’s of Cambridge before Christmas shopping at the Cambridge Wal-Mart. Trooper Cunningham and representatives of the Cambridge and Byesville police departments, and Guernsey County Sheriff’s Office also participated in the Cram the Cruiser Toy Drive at the Cambridge Wal-Mart to benefit the Guernsey County Secret Santa Program. Three cruisers were filled with toys during the event.

Christmas Shoe Give 2017



In December, the Rock City Church and Central Ohio law enforcement officials gave new shoes to students at West Broad Street and Eakin elementary schools through the Christmas Shoe Give 2017. Troopers Damon L. Arnett, Eric S. Sheumaker and Tyranda A. Franklin, Sergeant Jerod L. Keyes, and Patrol Auxiliary members took part. Law enforcement officials sized each students’ feet before handing the child a box of new shoes to open. The event provided shoes to more than 500 students.

Marietta Post



On December 16, the Marietta Post participated in “Buying with Bears” in Marietta. The Marietta Post helped 15 children, taking them to the Marietta McDonald’s for breakfast and then to the Marietta Wal-Mart for Christmas shopping. Troopers Lea R. Mikes, Caleb D. Courson, Stephen L. Rogers and Sergeant Garic B. Warner organized the event.

Warren District



District 4 and District 3 units, Lieutenant Antonio L. and Rosalia Matos, Sergeant William F. Lee, Sergeant Paul J. and Pam March, Trooper Deanna L. Barco, Trooper Robert J. Simone and former OSHP Dispatcher Amy and Jeff Hunt, OSHP Auxiliary Lee Neutzling, and Teddy Trooper (Luke Simone, brother of Trooper Simone) participated in the 2017 Summit County Shop with a Cop. They were able to make a wonderful Christmas for 11 underprivileged children at the Target Store in Stow.



The Warren District gathered and donated winter coats, hats, gloves, boots and sweatshirts to the Youngstown Blue Coats. The clothing was presented to the organization at the Warren District Radio Shop. The District gives a special thanks to all D4 Posts and retirees for donating the items. Electronic Technician William J. Hummel lead the project.

Steubenville/St. Clairville Posts



The Steubenville and St. Clairville Posts participated in “Buying with Bears” on December 9. The 17 kids who participated were treated to breakfast from the Steubenville McDonald’s and then taken to the Steubenville-area Wal-Mart for Christmas shopping. The event was organized by Steubenville Post Trooper Gregory B. Scalley and St. Clairville Dispatcher Melissa J. Rath.

Zanesville Post



Over the Christmas holiday, Lowes of Zanesville dropped off stuffed animal toys to the Zanesville Post for troopers to deliver to area children. On December 24, troopers Thomas E. Davis and Jordan T. Butler, and Sergeant Todd L. Henry took toys to Genesis Hospital and delivered them to children in the emergency room. Toys were also donated to Genesis Hospital Pediatrics Units and were distributed throughout the winter. Toys also were donated to the Muskingum County Children’s Services Office, in hopes that no child went without on Christmas.

Chardon Post

Trooper Jennifer L. Detmer of the Chardon Post and Geauga County Sheriff’s Deputy Brian Sebor were recognized for going “Above and Beyond” when they assisted a family in need and ensured a young child’s safety. Trooper Detmer and Deputy Sebor observed a child in a broken safety seat during a traffic stop. With their own money, they purchased a child safety seat for the family and made sure the child was properly secured before the family got back on the road to continue their travels.

Van Wert Post



The Van Wert Patrol Post collected toys for Van Wert Salvation Army's Caring is Sharing Christmas gift program. Lieutenant Jonathon A. Gray, Dispatcher Patrick P. Bowsher, Administrative Professional 1 Beth Stewart Bullinger, Dispatcher Steven B. Numbers, Sergeant Steven G. Posada and Sergeant Michael Mahaffey all assisted in packaging and delivering the gifts.

Ironton Post



Retired Sergeant John Smith planned and coordinated a retiree breakfast. Captain Carl Roark, retired Lieutenant Jim Coleman, retired Sergeant Jim Hutton, Sergeant Nicholas A. Lunsford, retired Dispatcher Norma Hughes, retired Trooper Chuck Knapp and Lieutenant Michael R. Gore all attended the breakfast.

Lima Post



In November, the Lima Post partnered with local law enforcement to support the local MADD chapter in combatting impaired driving.

Norwalk Post



Administrative Professional 1 Kristin L. Robenalt's son Zach Robenalt had his D.A.R.E. graduation on February 8. Trooper John Stevens and Officer Dave Daniels of the Norwalk Police Department attended the graduation, and took a picture with Zach and his certificate.

Akron Post

A new Akron Post opened on February 17, 2018, with 24-hour coverage. The post houses Patrol personnel, Ohio Investigative Unit personnel and BMV employees. The Division partnered with the University of Akron and secured a location on campus property.

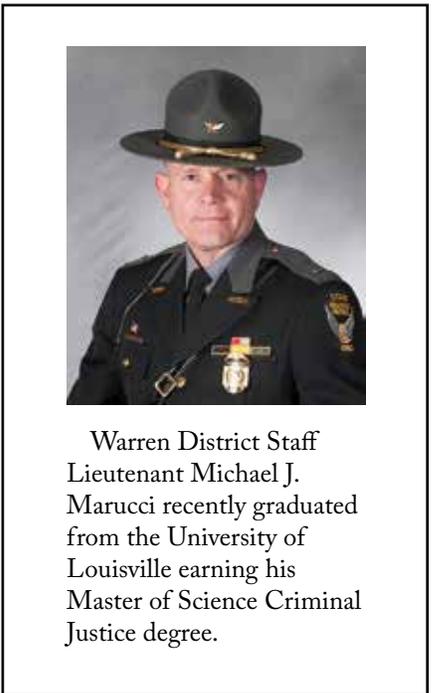
Warren District



New nose art was unveiled at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station depicting the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Flying Wheel emblem. The nose art was unveiled on December 14 and displays the partnership between the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the U.S. Air Force 910th Airlift Wing.



Trooper Ray D. Ellis and Trooper Daniel D. DeLuca conducted a 5 Minutes for Life presentation to 7th and 8th grade students at the Horizon Science Academy in Youngstown.



Warren District Staff Lieutenant Michael J. Marucci recently graduated from the University of Louisville earning his Master of Science Criminal Justice degree.

Fremont Post



Lieutenant Matthew B. Meredith attended the Hopewell-Loudon Elementary School to assist with the Safety Patrol Class program.



Sergeant Mike J. Walter, Trooper Donald P. Pratt and Trooper Donté M. Hanns worked with the Sandusky County Sheriff's Officers to conduct a safety belt check at Vanguard School in Fremont.

Bucyrus Post



Trooper Shane M. Morrow and canine Hera were assisted by Trooper Colt W. Browne to conduct a speech detail and canine demonstration for a third grade class at Bellville Elementary. The class recently finished a reading assignment on how police canines protect and serve their community.

Circleville Post



The Circleville Post celebrated nine Patrol brats born within one year. Pictured are, from left: Trooper Ronald C. Brown and son Eli, Trooper Thomas J. Ross and daughter Alison, Trooper Kyle A. Fox and daughter Olivia, Trooper Evan A. Cox and daughter Avalyn, Trooper Eric D. Holbrook and daughter Adriene, Trooper Quentin K. Phillips and son Ren Maverick, Trooper Kyle E. Compton and son Liam, Trooper Jacob D. Landis and son Jude, Trooper Benjamin L. Jenkins (not pictured - serving in Iraq), wife Whitney Jenkins with daughter Emma and Sergeant Michael S. Munyon and son Grayson.

St. Clairsville Post



On December 15, 2017, Union Local High School was presented with an award for the highest safety belt usage among student drivers and passengers. Troopers from the St. Clairsville Post completed unannounced surveys at seven Belmont County High Schools. Union Local students had an 86 percent usage rate and received a billboard, sponsored by United Dairy, adjacent to the high school that announced their accomplishment. McDonald's also provided "Be Our Guest" cards for a free sandwich to the student drivers and passengers who were wearing safety belts as they entered the school parking lot. During a presentation, Lieutenant James M. Faunda spoke to the students about the importance of wearing a safety belt and Staff Lieutenant Steven R. Rine encouraged them to strive for 100 percent usage.

Cambridge District



Allen R. Shirer



Kelsey Shirer

The Cambridge District showed support for Kelsey Shirer, sister of Trooper Allen R. Shirer of the Marietta Post. Kelsey was diagnosed with Stage IV colorectal cancer that has spread into her surrounding tissue. The District collected donations and sold shirts to help raise money to support Kelsey and her family. Donations are still being accepted. Anyone who wishes to help out can send a donation to Cambridge Post 30 with attention to Sergeant Kyle L. Shirer.

Daren L. Johnson

Sergeant Daren L. Johnson, Lima Post, retired on February 2, 2018, after 25 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 Lima Post. In 1999, he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. He also served in the Office of Personnel. In 2002, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Marysville Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Lima Post.



Gregory L. McCutcheon

Sergeant Gregory L. McCutcheon, St. Clairsville Post, retired on February 9, 2018, after 25 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 Steubenville Post. In 1999, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. In 2000, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and remained at the Steubenville Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the New Philadelphia and St. Clairsville posts and at the Cambridge District Headquarters.



Deanna L. Barco

Trooper Deanna L. Barco, Hiram Post, retired on February 5, 2018, after 20 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in October 1997 as a member of the 130th Academy Class. She earned her commission in May 1998 and has been assigned to the Hiram Post throughout her career.



James E. Drake

Trooper James E. Drake, Cleveland District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on November 30, 2017, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 1987 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Akron Post. He began his training as a member of the 117th Academy Class in March 1988. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Wooster Post. In 1997, he was selected as Akron Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he served at the Akron and Canton posts, and Berea, Cleveland and Warren district commercial enforcement units.



Crystal J. Evans

Trooper Crystal J. Evans, Capitol Operations, retired on January 19, 2018, after 25 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in January 1993 as a member of the 124th Academy Class. She earned her commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Sandusky Post. As a trooper, she also served at the Ashtabula and Elyria posts, the Warren and Cleveland district commercial enforcement units, and Recruitment.



Craig M. Monte

Trooper Craig M. Monte, Lisbon Post, retired on February 9, 2018, after 21 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1997 as a member of the 128th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and has been assigned to the Lisbon Post throughout his career. In 2005, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Pittsburgh in 1993. He served in the United States Navy from 1985 to 1989.



Christ T. Moorer

Trooper Christ T. Moorer, Cleveland District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on January 5, 2018, after 23 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1994 as a member of the 126th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Toledo Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Medina and Canton posts and the Cleveland and Warren district commercial enforcement units.

Trooper Moorer served in the United States Army from 1988 to 1993, and the United States Army National Guard Reserve from 1996 to 2003. He earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Ashland University in 2010.



Gregory A. Rayot

Trooper Gregory A. Rayot, Toledo Post, retired on February 16, 2018, 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 September of that year and was assigned to the Defiance Post. As a trooper, he also served in Recruitment and at the Toledo Post.



Mark E. Visvary

Trooper Mark E. Visvary, St. Clairsville Post, retired on January 12, 2018, after 25 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 Portsmouth Post. He also served at the Steubenville Post. In 2011, he was selected as Post Trooper of Year.



Todd A. Mullins

Trooper Todd A. Mullins, Xenia Post, retired on January 12, 2018, after 25 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 former Eaton Post. In 1998, he was selected as Xenia Post Trooper of the Year. He also served at the Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



Phillip M. Williams

Enforcement Agent Phillip M. Williams, of the Columbus District Office, retired on January 31, 2018, after 26 years with the Ohio Investigative Unit. Agent Williams began his career in January 1992, when the agency was known as the Ohio Department of Liquor Control. He was assigned to the Akron District Office as an enforcement agent. In 1996, Agent Williams transferred to the Columbus District Office and was assigned to the Columbus Division of Police Vice Squad Bureau. During his career he also worked as a food stamp fraud investigator and Sober Truth agent.



Frank C. Murua

Trooper Frank C. Murua, Bowling Green Post, retired on January 15, 2018, after 25 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 Van Wert Post. He earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement twice. As a trooper, he also served at the Findlay and Bowling Green posts.



He earned an Associate of Art degree in public administration and public safety in 2009. In 2014, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in technology, learning design and training from Bowling Green State University.

Agent Williams graduated from the Cleveland Heights Police Academy in April 1992.

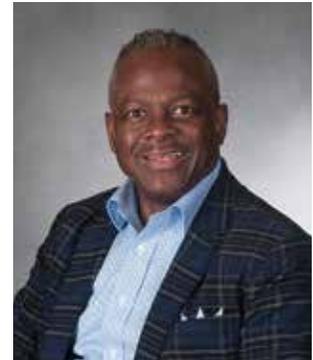
David L. Gross

Motor Vehicle Inspector David L. Gross, Warren District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on February 28, 2018, after 19 years with the Patrol. He began his Patrol career as a Maintenance Repair Worker 2 assigned to the Canfield Post. He also served at the Warren District Headquarters. In 2010, he was promoted to Motor Vehicle Inspector and transferred to the Warren District Commercial Enforcement Unit. He also served as a Stationary Load Limit Inspector.



Eddie L. Perry

Telephone Operator 2 Eddie L. Perry, Columbus District Professional Staff, retired on January 31, 2018, after 20 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1997 as a Maintenance Repair Worker 2 assigned to the Elyria Post. In 2001, he was promoted to Telephone Operator 2 and transferred to the Columbus District Headquarters.



Denise L. Jones

Dispatcher Denise L. Jones, Van Wert Dispatch Center, retired on January 4, 2018, after 30 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in January 1988 as a Dispatcher assigned to the Ashtabula Post, where she was selected as Post Dispatcher of the Year in 1990. She also served at the Findlay Dispatch Center, where she was selected as Post Dispatcher of the Year three times.



Janet M. McCallister

Administrative Professional 1 Janet M. McCallister, Aviation Unit, retired on January 5, 2018, after more than 28 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in April 1989 as Administrative Staff assigned to the Aviation Unit. In 1990, she was promoted to Office Assistant 3, and in 2015 she was promoted to Administrative Professional 1.



Rodney D. Robinson

Dispatcher Rodney D. Robinson, Athens Dispatch Center, retired on February 24, 2018, after 22 years with the Patrol. He began his Patrol career in May 1995 as a Dispatcher assigned to the Athens Post. He was selected as Post Dispatcher of year twice. In 2014, he was selected as District Dispatcher of the Year. As a Dispatcher, he also served at the Jackson and Athens Dispatch Centers.



Essie M. Winfrey

Administrative Professional 4 Essie M. Winfrey, Office of Logistics and Security Services, retired on November 30, 2017, after 26 years of state service. She began her state career with the Ohio Department of Transportation as an Executive Secretary 1 in 1991. She joined the Patrol in December 1999 assigned to the Office of Logistics/Facility Services. As an Executive Secretary 1 she also served in the Office of the Superintendent, Professional Standards Unit, and in the Office of Logistics and Security Services. She earned the State Employee Recognition Award twice and the Statewide Civilian Employee Recognition once.



Retirements in this issue of the Flying Wheel include those employees who retired from December 2017 - February 2018.

OSHP ½ Units Association

In February the Ohio State Highway Patrol ½ Units Association received their IRS determination letter and were deemed a public charity non-profit 501(c)(3). They are currently in the process of applying for Kroger Community Rewards, Amazon Smile and the Combined Charitable Campaign.

The ½ Units Association is an organization consisting of spouses of OSHP troopers or dispatchers – active, retired or deceased. It is a family-focused organization that assists with orientation and aspects of the Patrol's culture. They offer family activities, peer support, resources for critical incidents and education. They are available to those who may have questions.

The association helps establish and organize active District groups and promote opportunities for members to meet for planning and fellowship. They also provide emotional support for Patrol families and can help create an End of Watch packet - which provides valuable information in the event of an OSHP employee passing away.

The ½ Units Association is devoted to strengthening and perpetuating relationships within the family of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. For more information, please email half_units@live.com.



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Ohio Investigative Unit



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In the next issue:

- Retiree Appreciation
- Patrol Memorial
- Distracted Driving Corridor

SAVE
THE
DATE



2018 Retiree Events

April – Retiree Appreciation Month – celebrated throughout the State

June 15, 2018 – Retiree Cookout – Academy

August 11, 2018 – Sunbird – Ohio Veterans Home, Sandusky, Ohio

September 22, 2018 – OSHPRA Annual Meeting and Dinner – Embassy Suites by Hilton, Columbus, Ohio

November 10, 2018 – 85th Anniversary Celebration – Hyatt Regency Downtown, Columbus, OH

OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Chaplain's Comments



In my house there are two antique clocks, both working even though they are older than I am. One is a tall grandfather clock with a glass door, behind which there is the pendulum swinging back and forth in a steady motion. The other is a mantel clock with a picture hiding the swinging pendulum. Different clocks in appearance and in their monotonous sound of “tick-tock,” but both operating under the same system. There is a weight which puts a steady force on the mechanism to keep the gears rotating at just the correct speed. Not too fast and not too slow — just a steady pull, which has kept them ticking for well over 100 years, and they will continue do so as long as I remember to wind up the weight on each clock — every week for the grandfather and every day for the mantel clock. That steady pull of the weight keeps each clock ticking and displaying the correct time.

Sometimes when I am winding the clocks I wonder what keeps a trooper ticking. As I read the criminal patrol report about the amazing activity resulting in seizures, as I learn about the highway activity that is reducing fatalities and making increasing traffic volume safer, as I hear about the work of investigators removing the bad people from our communities, as I become ever more aware of the support of the administrative and maintenance staff, and as I am constantly reminded of the front-line work of the amazing dispatchers — all working together like a precision clock — I wonder what keeps everything ticking day after day, year after year.

Yes, there is the stated purpose and mission of making Ohio a safer place for all of its citizens. But as it becomes increasingly dangerous and challenging, sometimes monotonous, but never exactly the same or predictable. There are the changes in laws and interpretations and always the scrutinizing eye of the media. So what keeps a person in law enforcement ministry ticking when almost everyone could have an easier job with more pay in some other field?

I submit to you that it is a Divine call to become a minister of justice and continue to serve others, even at the risk of one's own life. What keeps one ticking after the initial response is faith in

the steady and constant pull of God's love which changes us and empowers us to share that life-giving love with others.

As I write these thoughts, we are moving toward the celebration of Easter. Whatever the event may mean to you personally, go back in time with me and look at some historical facts. History verifies that there was a teacher named Jesus who called together 12 individuals with whom he shared for about three years. History — Greek, Roman and Jewish — all record the fact of the death of Jesus by crucifixion. What became of those 12 individuals who had given themselves to Jesus with the hope for a new kingdom where things would become ideal for them? They were told to come see the empty tomb and then go tell about the power of God's love to make life better for others. Of the 12, one took his own life out of utter despair, one lived to an older age and died a natural death, and the other 10 went out against all odds and turned the world right side up. But each one died a martyr's death suffering cruel punishment. What kept them ticking when challenged in such an overwhelming manner? The same Divine power which, like the weights in my clocks, keeps a steady pull on us to keep on keeping on even when life gets tough and dangerous. It is the same steady power of God's love which keeps a trooper and all the team members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol going at a steady pace every day and night to make Ohio safer for all who live here or travel through as visitors.

Stay safe and keep ticking by the power of God's love within you and working through you to make life better for others. The nine district chaplains join with me in expressing our appreciation for all you do every day. You are truly in our prayers.

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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2017 Leadership Awards



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85th Anniversary Celebration**
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