

# FLYING

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# WHEEL

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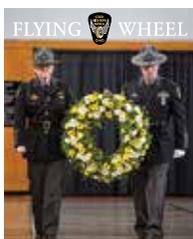
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## On the Cover



Retired S/Lt. Virginia L. Fogt and 2013 State Trooper of the Year Christian J. Niemeyer carry in the memorial wreath at the Patrol's annual memorial ceremony to recognize and honor its 39 officers, liquor enforcement agent and five support personnel killed in the line of duty. The ceremony was held at the Training Academy on May 9.

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

We have continued to set the bar high in 2014, but there is still work to be done. Our personnel have continued to meet the high demands being placed on them to make greater strides after having the safest year on record in 2013. Our collaborative efforts with other agencies and our commitment to the safety of our citizens have paid great dividends. We continue to make a difference to the citizens of Ohio, while maintaining the professional image of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

In looking at our future, we must always remember our past. The legacy of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is something that took decades to establish. Over the past several months, I have asked all of you to reach out to our retirees and remind them they will always remain a part of our extended family. They paved the way for our successes as an organization and continue to have great impact on the Patrol. Our retirees are a wealth of knowledge in the areas of leadership, service to the community and enabling the growth of our organization. They are a valued asset to our organization, and we can continue to learn so much from them.

As we move forward in 2014, we must make officer safety our highest priority. During this time of year, when attending memorial services for our fallen brothers and sisters in law enforcement, we are reminded of the dangers in the work we do. There are lessons to be learned from those officers who truly gave of themselves in the service of others. The more diligent we become in removing criminals from our roadways, the more likely we are to come in contact with those individuals who wish to harm us.

Our training academy is one of the finest in the world and they will continue to assess criminal trends and develop countermeasures to keep our officers safe. Our role as a leader in officer safety tactics has now been recognized internationally. The Patrol is now developing officer safety training tools for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). We continue to provide weekly tips and training videos to the IACP to be viewed by officers across the globe. We must continue to forge ahead in the area of officer safety training. I encourage all of you to take the necessary precautions to protect yourselves on a daily basis and know that your safety is always on my mind.

Ohio is a safer place today because of your efforts. Troopers and local law enforcement save hundreds of lives each year. The majority of those saved will go unknown and the officers who saved them will go without any recognition. We do not work for recognition; we work to make a difference in the lives of those we serve. We continue to target aggressive driving behaviors and criminal activity that lead to the senseless loss of life in our state. We continue to use programs like *5 Minutes for Life* to educate our youth about the dangers of drug use while developing them into community leaders. The work you have done, and will continue to do, provides for a better quality of life. You will never know how many lives you have impacted throughout your career but mark my word, you have made a difference.



Colonel Paul A. Pride  
Superintendent



*What will you do today to contribute to a safer Ohio?*

## April named "Retiree Appreciation Month"

The Ohio State Highway Patrol retirees remain an important part of the rich tradition of this organization. To this end, Colonel Paul A. Pride designated the month of April as "Retiree Appreciation Month."

As a Patrol family, it is everyone's responsibility to ensure Patrol retirees are not forgotten and are involved in local, regional and statewide events.

On April 14, the Patrol held a Ham and Bean Luncheon at the Academy to bring together former and current Patrol family members. The luncheon was followed by a meeting to discuss future involvement of the retirees and Patrol functions.

In addition, some post commanders hosted their own outreach events in April for those unable to attend the luncheon.





## Fermina Sanchez retires after 55 years with the Patrol

When Fermina Sanchez began her career with the Patrol in June 1959, Dwight D. Eisenhower was President, Buddy Holly had been killed in a plane crash, Alaska had just become the 49th state, Barbie Dolls made their debut on shelves and a loaf of bread cost 20 cents.

The Patrol was on the eve of its 26th Anniversary and the 50th Academy Class was training at Hartman Farms. Colonel Scott B. Radcliffe, a Camp Perry graduate, was named the fourth superintendent - after the first non-sworn superintendent, Fred Moritz, succumbed to cancer.

It was March of 1959 when a 19-year-old Fermina Sanchez stopped in at the unemployment office in Warren, Ohio to see if there were any jobs available. Her temporary employment with the Railroad Retirement Board had just ended after six months and she was in need of a new job. After reviewing her qualifications, they asked her if she would be interested in a secretarial position with the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

“Of course I said yes...and the rest is history,” explained Fermina Sanchez.

She was hired on as the Warren District commander’s secretary. Throughout her 55 years with the Patrol she has served in the same office located in the former Warren District Headquarters and in the same capacity. During her time she has worked for 10 of the 11 Warren District commanders—starting with Lt. Harold Cowell through Capt. James Holt.

Her first official title was clerk stenographer 3. Over the years the position title changed to Administrative Assistant, Secretary, Secretary 1, Executive Secretary and finally, Administrative Professional 4.

Although, over the years it wasn’t only the position title that changed.

The 1960’s brought the filming of Mechanized Death, Signal 30 and Wheels of Tragedy with Highway Safety Films Inc., a non-profit out of Mansfield. The Patrol opened their first chemical laboratory and hired their first chemist. Ground was broken for the Patrol’s new Training Academy in Columbus. The Drum and Bugle Corps was formed to boost morale amongst troopers, chaos broke out at the Ohio Penitentiary (*see story on next page*) and Robert M. Chiamonte was named colonel.

As Sanchez reflected on her career, one of the biggest changes that stands out to her was the hiring of women dispatchers. In 1966, the Patrol hired 15 women for the position of dispatcher.

“Eventually they just about replaced all the males – with the exception of the cadet dispatchers. Then women were hired as cadet dispatchers and finally went through the Academy.”

In 1976, women were allowed to enter the Academy with the start of the 100th Academy Class and “Patrolman” badges were replaced with “Trooper” badges.

The 1970s brought several civil disturbances. Sanchez remembers the Kent State shootings that took place in May 1970.

“Every day the entire staff including the investigations secretary would go to the campus to work. I can remember being on daily conference calls and hearing all the other district captains say ‘here’ when their district was called and when they said D4, I would answer because my captain was on site and I was back at headquarters. There was always someone chuckling on the other end. However, I held my own and gave the daily report on the investigation that had been given to me by our district commander. That went on throughout the summer,” explained Sanchez. “After my regular working hours, I would stay every day until 9:30 or 10:00 at night to type statements from students and National Guardsmen. Kent State University picked up my salary for the overtime at \$3.00 per hour. I thought I was in seventh heaven. You have to remember that I was only making \$2.88 per hour at that time.”

—please see *Fermina Sanchez Retires*, continued on page 14



*Being the longest working Ohio State Highway Patrol employee, it was decided to retire Fermina’s unit number “4108” to recognize her 55 years of hard work and dedication to the Division. This is an honor typically reserved for the rank of Colonel.*

## THE OHIO PENITENTIARY RIOT IN 1968

On June 24, 1968, the Ohio Penitentiary experienced a short but costly riot. This riot was put down in short order, but unfortunately, it was only a prelude to a much larger and more deadly confrontation to come.

At 10:15 a.m. on August 20, 1968, reports that inmates in C and D block had taken guards hostage at knife point were received from the prison. The disorder quickly spread as inmates took guards' keys and began freeing other prisoners, setting fires and looting the commissary, hospital and mess hall.

About an hour after the uprising started, a platoon of 30 Patrol officers arrived to protect firefighters and bring rioting prisoners under control. The fires were quickly extinguished and Warden M.J. Koloski, who was in constant conference with inmates from the start, emerged with a list of demands: amnesty, more privileges, the firing of several named guards and media exposure.

Retired Tpr. Stan Erter—who would become the second person to lower himself into the penitentiary from the roof—remembered, “It was early in the day when Lt. Verlin ‘Gene’ Archer and I would arrive at the prison to assist with the disturbance. We assembled in the prison court yard where numerous other Patrol officers from around the state were standing by to receive assignments and orders to deal with the disturbance.”

Nine guards were being held hostage. The warden agreed to all but one of the demands, and at around 2 p.m., five representatives of the local media were escorted into the prison for a news conference. Prisoners were clearly in disarray – many were drunk or high on drugs stolen from the hospital, leadership had deteriorated and the rioters were now fighting amongst themselves.

After 30 minutes, the news conference was terminated. In addition to issuing new demands, the rioters restated they were ready to “burn the hostages to a cinder.” Added were shouts that they were going to roll a head into the yard. They then stated they would hold the hostages until the newspapers were out and they could see their demands in print. Warden Koloski continued face-to-face negotiations with rioters for a while, then emerged and reported the cell blocks had been barricaded, and the prisoners had gasoline and were ready to set fire to the entrances and hostages. The hostages were being held in the prison’s top level, in cells which inmates had jammed by chiseling the locks.

At this point – about five hours into the riot – it became evident a plan was needed to free the hostages by force. Colonel Chiaramonte, Lt. Colonel C. E.

Reich, and General S. T. Del Corso (commander of the National Guard) met with a variety of experts and representatives to devise their plan. The plan completed, officials had only to wait as Warden Koloski continued negotiations to free the hostage guards. By 6:30 p.m., it was too late to launch the assault, so the bulk of the 170-man contingent of Patrol officers returned to duty at the State Fair, and others spent the night in the courtyard of the penitentiary—getting little to no sleep.

After nearly continuous dialogue throughout the night and into the next day, it was clear the hostages were in grave danger. The inmates had grown more wild and violent, and showed no indication they would free the guards. At noon an inmate was stabbed by another in plain view of officials, and soon there was a very real threat that the entire institution might be taken over.

“Still in the courtyard, Lt. Archer and I waited with other officers to see what type of actions we would take to bring the incident to a close. Archer then advised me that he was going to check on a matter and would return very soon, leaving the area. I soon saw the lieutenant heading back to where I was standing. To say he had the look of a man on a mission would be an understatement, and I soon realized I was going to be part of that mission. He hardly reached to where I was standing when he said ‘Come on Stan, we have a detail to handle,’” Erter explained. “Unknown to many of us at the time, a plan had been devised.”

The approach was very similar to one used by Gen. Del Corso in World War II. Two simultaneous explosions were set off—one on the roof and one in the wall—which, aside from allowing access for the assault squads, momentarily stunned rioters.

“The plan was for Lt. Archer and me to drop through the hole in the prison roof to discourage any inmates from moving the hostages to the very top of the cell block tier. If inmates would have decided to take this action, the capture of the inmates and rescue of the hostages would take days to bring the matter to a successful resolution,” Erter said.

In a 2002 interview, Chiaramonte talked about the strategy. “One thing that stands out is the Pen Riot in ‘68, when we blew a hole in the Pen roof and two men went down that hole,” he said. “Lt. Verlin ‘Gene’ Archer and Ptl. Stanley Erter were the ones who went down. That took more nerve than anything I can think of – climbing down a rope to confront the hostage takers, to keep them from killing the hostages.”



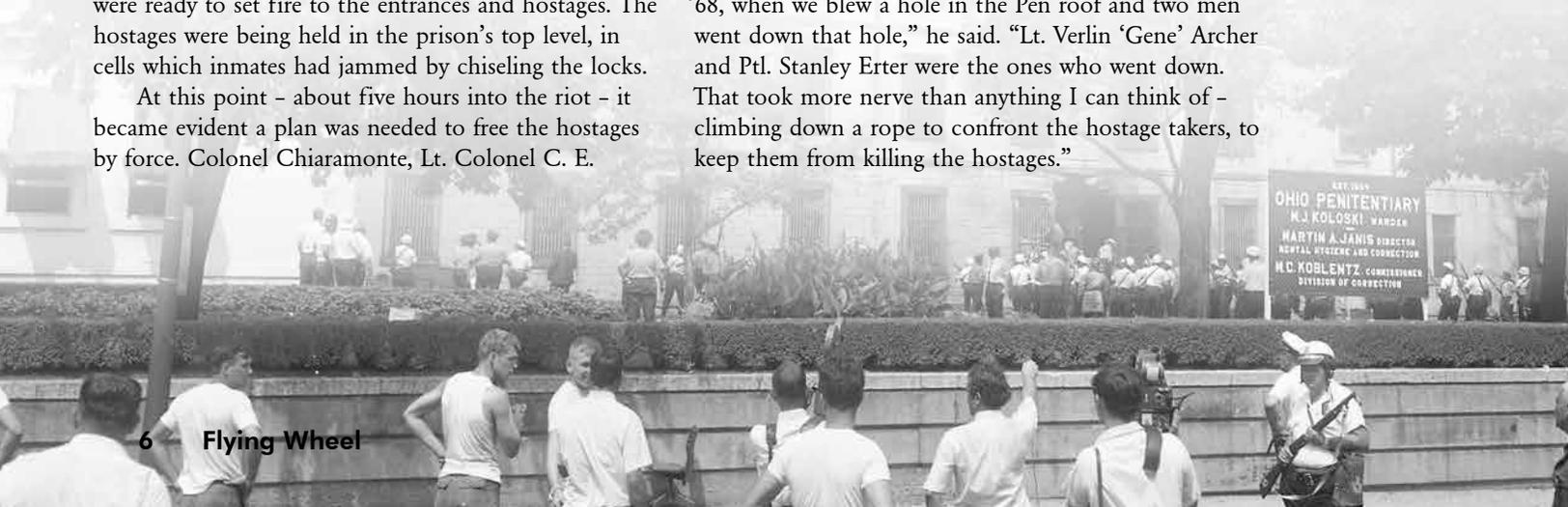
**Robert Chiaramonte**



**Clifford Reich**



**Verlin Archer**





Jay Devoll

## Ohio Pen in chaos

*This is part of a March 2008 interview with Retired Captain Jay Devoll. In this excerpt, he recalls violent outbreaks at the Ohio Penitentiary in 1968.*

“The ’68 riot was a lot different (than the one in 1952), definitely. We had three or four days that they held the hostages. Finally we came in one morning and (Colonel Robert M.) Chiamonte told the warden (M.J. Koloski), ‘I’m taking over. We’ve been putting up with your stuff long enough.’

“(General S.T.) Del Corso (commander) of the National Guard was there, and I happened to be one of some who were standing in the hall where you could hear some of the things. And they decided on blowing a hole in the roof and in the wall at the same time. Del Corso said we’ll get munitions people out of Wright Patt(erson Air Force Base), if I’m not mistaken.

“About a half dozen of us were standing in there when they set off the charges. And these old pictures that you see where, especially in cartoons, in an explosion, where the building raises up and settles back down. That’s just what it reminded me of. There was dust and dirt that came flying out of every window and doorway there was. They had two platoons—one with the Highway Patrol and the other one the Columbus PD and they went in through the hole in the wall. The Patrol turned one way and the PD turned the other way and they emptied a Thompson submachine gun down the hallway. People got back in their cells then, if they could. Some of them were very stunned from the wall (explosion). They weren’t really hurt, they were just knocked down by the force of it.

“That was pretty much the end of that one, too. They took every one of them out in the courtyard bare naked. That way, they knew they didn’t have any weapons on them, and also, before they were allowed back in the cell, the cells were completely stripped and searched. That was the reason for that.

“Afterward, a former Patrol major was appointed warden—Harold Cardwell. And he ran it for I don’t know how many years.”

At 2:50 p.m., the assault of the building was launched. Erter remembers the moments before the blasts. “We moved our positions a number of steps back down the stairway and crouched on the stair treads to brace for the explosions. Within minutes, we heard someone yell, ‘Fire in the hole,’ and with those words the charges went off with a tremendous sound and concussion, along with the shaking of the ground and the building.”

Archer and Erter were directed to an access area that led them to a narrow set of steps leading up to the slate roof of the penitentiary. The two men edged their way about 25 feet to the existing hole in the roof. Archer was first to drop through the opening—about 20 to 25 feet below to the cell block.

“Once we were on top of the cell block, we fired several warning shots down the cell block range to keep any inmates from moving the hostages to the top of the cell block, something officials had been concerned about during the planning stages of the assault. While on top of the cell block, we heard a considerable amount of gun fire. The weapons fire from below ceased as quickly as it started,” explained Erter.

At the same time as the roof breach, one squad of patrolmen, under the command of Capt. W.C. George, entered and secured the area between A-B and C-D blocks through the hole that was blown in the side of the penitentiary. The remaining platoon of Patrol officers (three squads), under the command of Lt. S.L. Adomaitis, entered A-B block at ground level and systematically moved up each level of cells, successfully securing each and reaching the hostages. A platoon of Columbus Police officers, under the command of Major (later Chief) Dwight Joseph moved in and quickly secured C-D blocks.

“One thing that struck me about the entire event was how close the hostages came to being killed. While climbing down the ladders going through the cell block I saw where the hostages had been held in the cells. The inmates had stuffed mattresses in the cells and walkways near the cells along the cell blocks. Large containers filled with lighter fluid or gasoline was observed in the areas of where the hostages were being held. Much of the flammable liquid was spilled all over the immediate area, exposing the hostages to immediate death if a spark was made, deliberately or accidentally,” remembers Erter.

When the smoke cleared, five inmates were dead and another nine were injured; three guards, two Columbus Police officers, and two Patrol officers were also injured.

Apparently in sympathy with the Ohio Penitentiary riot, minor disturbances were also experienced at London and Lebanon on August 20. These were quickly quelled by the Patrol and guard personnel.



Stan Erter points out where he was on the roof of the Ohio Pen in a photo taken during the 1968 prison riot. Above, Erter during his Patrol career.

## Patrol Memorial Honors Fallen Personnel, Eternal Flame Dedicated

Several hundred family members and friends of the Patrol gathered at the Academy on May 9 to honor our 40 officers and five support personnel killed in the line of duty as part of the annual Ohio State Highway Patrol Memorial Ceremony.

The day began with troopers acting as honor escorts in guiding the families of our fallen officers to their seats in the Academy gymnasium.

Colonel Paul A. Pride, Patrol superintendent, and Ohio Speaker of the House William G. Batchelder both addressed the crowd. Following the Speaker's comments, the Saluting Battery performed a weapons salute, and Lt. Kelly D. Weakley sounded "Taps."

Retired Lt. Col. Gilbert H. Jones, second vice president of the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association, read the roster of the deceased and retired S/Lt. Virginia L. Fogt and Tpr. Christian J. Niemeyer performed the memorial salute. The Columbus Division of Police Pipers closed the remembrance ceremony with a performance of "Amazing Grace."

To end the day's events, Ohio Department of Public Safety Director John Born officially dedicated a new eternal flame to Reverend Richard and Linda Ellsworth, who, like our fallen personnel, were called to serve the Ohio State Highway Patrol, and do so by providing guidance and support to our personnel. The flame will sit in front of the Patrol Memorial Wall in the Academy Courtyard.

In addition to the Patrol memorial, personnel also participated in other local, state and national memorial ceremonies. On May 1 troopers represented the Division at the statewide remembrance at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy in London, Ohio, to honor Ohio officers killed in the line of duty. Troopers around the state also participated in county memorial events. In addition, a full week of events were held in conjunction with National Police Week in Washington, D.C.

### OTC Scholarships

Every year the Ohio Troopers Coalition (OTC) awards four scholarships to high school seniors based on the student's class ranking, standardized test scores, extracurricular activities, involvement in school government and community service work. Each scholarship pays \$1,500 per year and is renewable for four years based upon continuing academic performance. The scholarships are awarded to honor the memory of Patrol officers. This year, OTC awarded four Memorial Scholarships:

- *The Patrolman George A. Conn Memorial Scholarship:* Madison Kisner, daughter of Ron and Tammy Kisner (Milan Post)
- *The Trooper Jonathan P. Seabolt Memorial Scholarship:* Jeffrey McClelland, son of Rob and Becky McClelland (Ironton Post)
- *The Sergeant Harold K. Hanning Memorial Scholarship:* George King, son of George and Diane King (GHQ—Aviation)
- *The Patrolman Carl L. Thrush Memorial Scholarship:* Emily Schneider, daughter of Ron and Dala Schneider (Warren Post)



Sgt. Eric Short and Tpr. John McGlashan participated in the Erie County Police Memorial on May 4 in Sandusky.



# Training Academy Addition, Improvements Taking Shape

## Heritage Hall/Lobby Area

Renovations at the Training Academy are continuing, with the most recent construction projects centered on the main lobby and Robert M. Chiaramonte Heritage Hall. Although both spaces will flow together, the main focus in recent weeks has been the Heritage Hall renovation.

The vision for the renovation was first shared by Colonel Paul A. Pride, with the idea to bring forward new and modern ideas to pay respect to the Ohio State Highway Patrol's history, while also tying the lobby and Heritage Hall spaces together to improve use of space. A committee was created with various representatives, including current Patrol personnel and retirees, to provide input and direction for the renovation.

The new Heritage Hall is expected to be completed in August. The updated area will honor Colonel Robert M. Chiaramonte, and will include features such as window clings representing all nine core values, flat screen televisions that will display videos about the Patrol, a newly-renovated Honor Wall to represent fallen personnel and interactive kiosks.

## Thomas P. Charles Leadership Wing

Many of you have probably seen the progress being made on the new structure being built in the courtyard of our Academy. This structure was the vision of Director John Born, to have a facility that would allow the Patrol to educate future law enforcement personnel, house Academy staff and provide a place where special functions are held.

The progress of the 10,380 square foot building remains on target, and the project should be completed by the end of July. The interior of the building is ahead of schedule with the electrical, plumbing, HVAC and dry wall installed. The exterior of the building is nearly complete with brick and limestone masonry work, floor-to-ceiling windows looking out from the auditorium into the courtyard and the courtyard itself.

The Leadership Wing is a project that has been two and a half years in the making. The new building will house classrooms, offices, an auditorium, VIP room, A/V control room, restrooms and a lobby area. The new space will provide a much needed, state-of-the-art training facility for current and future personnel.

## Courtyard Renovation

While walking through the halls of the Academy, you may also have noticed the changes in the landscaping around the new leadership wing. This reconfiguration of the green space in the courtyard area occurred in conjunction with the construction of the Leadership Wing. The new area will be



The renovated lobby area of the Patrol's Training Academy features a new reception area.

home to many important gatherings and functions for the foreseeable future.

New to the courtyard is the re-location of the Memorial Wall, flagpole and bell tower, as well as a new eternal flame. These items are on point with the new building and are visible from the new auditorium. While some of the items are familiar to the Patrol family, the eternal flame is the newest addition to the courtyard. On May 9, the eternal flame was dedicated to Reverend Richard and Linda Ellsworth in appreciation of their many years of dedicated service to the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Another addition to the courtyard is an enlarged parade deck for assemblies and ceremonies held outside. All new landscaping, including sod, shrubbery, trees and an irrigation system, will keep the area looking beautiful for many years.



The Reverend Richard and Linda Ellsworth Eternal Flame sits in front of the memorial wall in the redesigned courtyard.

## Kolcum Retires, Teaford Promoted to Assistant Superintendent

Kevin D. Teaford, a 28-year veteran of the Division, was promoted to lieutenant colonel and named assistant superintendent on April 21. He replaces Lt. Col. Daniel E. Kolcum, who retired April 18 after more than 37 years of service, including three as assistant superintendent.

Lt. Col. Teaford began his Patrol career in 1986 as a cadet dispatcher. He trained with the 117th Class and earned his commission in 1988. He served at Jackson and Gallipolis, and was voted Post Trooper of the Year at Gallipolis in 1991, before earning a promotion to sergeant in 1994. He served as an assistant post commander at Ironton and then Gallipolis. In 1998, he was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to the West Jefferson Post as post commander. In 2000, he was promoted to staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Personnel. In 2004, he was promoted to captain and executive officer in the Office of Personnel. In 2010, he was promoted to major and named commander of the Office of Strategic Services.

Lt. Col. Teaford holds a Bachelor of Science in public administration from the University of Rio Grande and a Master of Arts in public policy from The Ohio State University. He completed training at the FBI National Academy in 2000.

Lt. Col. Kolcum joined the Patrol in October 1976 as a member of the 100th Class. He earned his commission in 1977 and was assigned to Sandusky. As a trooper, he also served at the Training Academy and the Medina Post. In 1982, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to Canfield as an assistant post commander. In 1992, he was promoted to lieu-



Daniel E. Kolcum



Kevin D. Teaford

tenant and transferred to the Toledo Post as post commander. In 1997, he was promoted to staff lieutenant and transferred to the Findlay District Headquarters to serve as an assistant district commander, and in 1999, he was promoted to captain and named commander of the Wilmington District. In 2008, he was promoted to major and named commander of the Office of Personnel. In 2010, he transferred to the Office of Special Operations, and in 2011, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Office of the Superintendent.

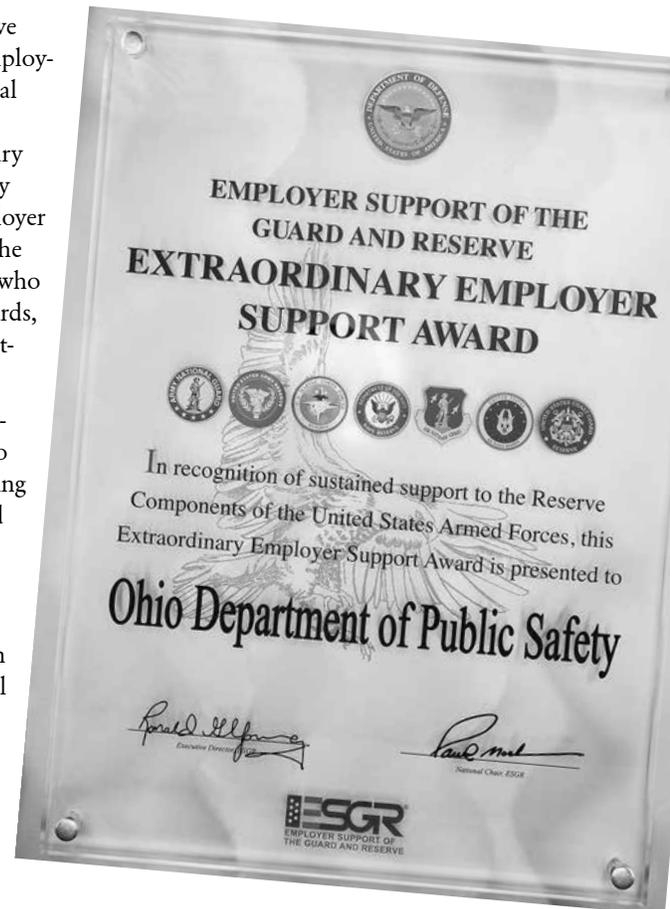
Lt. Col. Kolcum earned a Bachelor of Arts in education from Baldwin-Wallace College and a Master of Science in police administration from Youngstown State University. He completed advanced training at the Southern Police Institute.

## ODPS Earns Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Award

The Ohio Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) held its 2014 employer recognition dinner on April 5 to recognize employers with personnel policies that support employee participation in the National Guard and the United States Military Reserve.

The Ohio Department of Public Safety received the coveted “Extraordinary Employer Support Award” with special recognition of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. The Extraordinary Employer Support Award recognizes sustained employer support of the National Guard and Reserve service. Only prior recipients of the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award or Pro-Patria Award, who demonstrate sustained support for three years after receiving one of those awards, are eligible for consideration at the committee level. In 2008, the Ohio Department of Public Safety was the recipient of ESGR’s:

- **Above and Beyond Award**—Given in limited numbers by state and territory ESGR committees to recognize state and local level employers that go “Above and Beyond” the legal requirements for granting leave and providing support for military duty by their employees as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).
- **Pro-Patria Award**—Presented annually by each ESGR committee to the employer in its state or territory that provides the most exceptional support of our national defense through leadership practices and human resource policies that support their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.
- **Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award**—The highest recognition given by the U.S. government to employers for outstanding support of employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve.



# Patrol Officers Provide Training to Suriname National Police

*In partnership with U.S. Department of State, Patrol trains, advises and mentors foreign law enforcement personnel*

On September 30, 2012, the Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) and the Ohio State Highway Patrol entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing the framework for cooperation to support law enforcement and anti-crime efforts.

In February, INL proposed the Patrol provide assistance under that MOU framework by providing Ethics and Leadership in Policing training to officers of the Suriname National Police, whose agency is in the midst of organizational change to address various issues.

Specifically, the Office of Personnel selected Capt. Richard Fambro and S/Lt. Heidi Marshall to travel to Paramaribo, Suriname, from April 10 - 26 to provide two, one-week training programs consisting of the following topics, which were developed in part by the Patrol's Regional Training Unit:

- Basics of Ethics in Policing
- Organizational Behavior
- Community Relations
- Handling Police Misconduct
- Value-Based Policing and Core Values

- Introduction to Leadership Principles
- Communication and Leadership
- Relationships and Team Development
- Decision Making and Risk Analysis

The training was presented in a lecture/group discussion format to two groups of officers with three to 16 years of department experience.

Each session culminated with a graduation where officers were presented certificates of completion and a uniform patch from the Patrol in recognition of their participation.

The graduation for the first week's class was attended by one of the National Police Commissioners and Mike Otis, United States Embassy Regional Security Officer. The second week's graduation was attended by Humphrey Tjin Liep Shie, Chief of the National Police, as well as various members from the local media (print, television, radio).

Capt. Fambro and S/Lt. Marshall reported feedback received from all of the students was overwhelmingly positive and that the chief of police expressed an interest in having them return to present similar training to upper-level command staff.

**The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)**, headed by Assistant Secretary William R. Brownfield, advises the President, Secretary of State, other bureaus in the Department of State, and other departments and agencies on the development of policies and programs to combat international narcotics and crime.

INL programs support two of the Department's strategic goals: to reduce the entry of illegal drugs into the United States and to minimize the impact of international crime on the United States and its citizens.



## The Next Step in Public Safety — The Safer Ohio Initiative

In April, the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS), in collaboration with county EMA directors, fully implemented the Safer Ohio Initiative, which incorporates a comprehensive strategy of emergency preparedness to enhance the state’s readiness before, during and after a critical incident.

The Safer Ohio Initiative was established to integrate the missions

and plans of multiple public safety disciplines and as an opportunity to develop collaborative initiatives that focus on safety, service and protection. Through an innovative use of new free resources, Ohio communities are safer than ever before.

Local efforts at critical incidents can be supplemented or supported by state assets or state-coordinated assets

when requested by local officials. The Safer Ohio Initiative stresses proactive assistance; disbursed, pre-positioned resources; using mapping applications to better identify existing local, regional and state assets; and a centralized reporting structure so only one call is needed to reach appropriate state agencies and assets.

### Safer Ohio Phone App

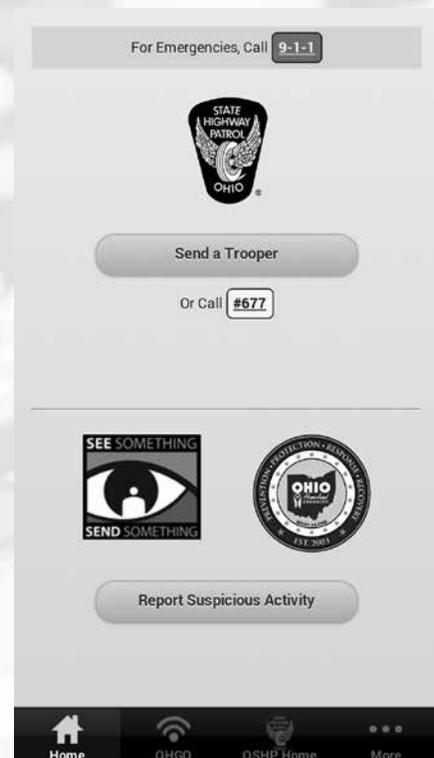
One element of the Safer Ohio Initiative was Ohio Homeland Security’s announcement of the new Safer Ohio Phone App on April 11.

To mark the one-year anniversary of the Boston Marathon bombing, Homeland Security officials used the new app to emphasize the public’s critical role in solving that case. Tips from the public ultimately led to the identification and apprehension of the men suspected of the bombing.

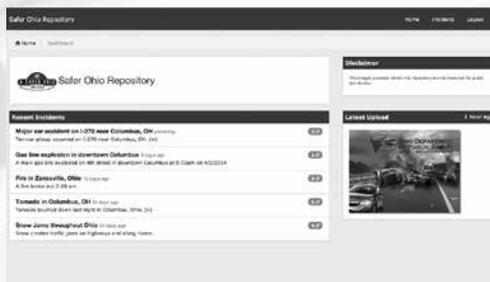
The Safer Ohio Phone App includes the “See Something, Send Something” feature to further engage the public in contributing to a safer Ohio. Using “See Something, Send Something,” anyone can report information and send photos of suspicious activity to Ohio Homeland Security. County EMA directors and SafeOhio teams also are encouraged to use this feature to send photographs to document the aftermath of disasters or severe weather.

The multi-function app also features a button to request help with a non-emergency traffic situation, a button to connect to 9-1-1 in case of emergency and a link to real-time traffic information from the Ohio Department of Transportation’s OH-GO application.

The free app is available for both Android and Apple devices, and Ohioans are strongly encouraged to download it.



### Safer Ohio Repository



Photographs sent via the app during a natural disaster or other significant event can be added to the Safer Ohio Repository. This repository is a statewide information-sharing system for key decision makers and a more efficient way to provide information to the state Emergency Operations Center. Photos taken through the Safer Ohio app at an incident will be uploaded through a secure web application to the Hub, located within the Ohio Emergency Operations Center. The Hub is staffed 24/7/365 by public safety intelligence analysts focused on public safety and emergency management issues and challenges. They can monitor statewide conditions and provide real-time situational analysis anytime it is needed.

Access to the Safer Ohio Repository was provided to all county EMA directors, public and private sector partners of Ohio Homeland Security and Ohio EMA, as well as key government officials and stakeholders.

## Other Safer Ohio Initiative Elements

*SafeOhio Red Cross Disaster Response Team*—Trained individuals on the ODPS Red Cross Disaster Response Team will be available to be deployed by the American Red Cross to provide disaster assistance in Ohio and jurisdictions outside of Ohio. The Ohio Revised Code allows for state employees to be deployed as disaster volunteers for up to 30 days a year. More than 150 ODPS volunteers are in the process of attaining First Aid/CPR certification and specialized training in service paths including damage assessment, client casework, mass care, disaster health services, disaster mental health services, logistics, communications, staffing/management, public affairs, records/reporting and computer operations.

*Volunteer Search and Rescue Teams*—All-volunteer canine handlers and their canines are now available to help local, county and state first responders locate missing people. Through a partnership with the Ohio Search and Rescue Association, canine resources are available for land/water cadaver searches, live area searches, tracking, trailing and disaster searches. By calling the state Hub, requesting agencies or affected families can have an experienced and certified team dispatched—at no cost. Each team will adhere to the standard Incident Control System and report to the Operations Manager. Teams will only officially respond when called upon by the authority of the Incident Commander.

## SafeOhio Teams—Led by County EMA Directors

When a full state Emergency Operation Center activation is not warranted, state support to local officials needs to be coordinated so information and updates help local operations. The SafeOhio Team concept aims to fill service gaps, to be inclusive and to serve those who need help the most.

At its core, the SafeOhio Team concept is collaborative because it relies on, and supports, local EMA and local first responders. The SafeOhio Teams embrace local scene command control and encourage information sharing. During deployments, local officials are the on-scene decision makers.

Among its many benefits, the Safer Ohio Initiative reduces inefficient, multiple and redundant reporting to state agencies and reduces the need for repeated calls for assistance or resources. One call, or one app, does it all.

For county EMA directors, the enhanced resources come with no-cost access to unprecedented analytical, intelligence and mapping assistance. That 24/7/365 access to the Safer Ohio Repository means critical incident photos, videos and information never before available are now accessible to decision makers at the local, state and federal levels.

Collaboration extends beyond emergency management and first responders too. The Safer Ohio Initiative encourages public participation by allowing a means for citizens to provide input and provides quicker access to life-saving or property-saving information during critical incidents.

## Tiered Levels of the SafeOhio Teams

### Initial Assessment

Those first on the scene are encouraged to provide an initial assessment to the state Hub within 1-3 hours of the event/incident by using the Safer Ohio app, by phone, MARCS or other available methods.

### Consultation Team

Representatives from Ohio EMA, Ohio Homeland Security, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the Ohio National Guard will conference call or meet at the state EOC in Columbus to determine if a situational assessment team should be deployed. If such deployment is indicated, the consultation team will evaluate the situation, consult with the county EMA director and call for additional agency participation if necessary.

### Situational Assessment Team

Local and county authorities will continue to determine if or when state resources are needed. Representatives from appropriate agencies will be deployed to the incident based on situational need. They will only be sent after local EMA directors have been contacted regarding the incident. The team will assess needs and offer resources when appropriate. These teams will be ready to deploy within 3-5 hours of being notified.

### ODPS Emergency Resource Teams

To reduce the impact of an event on citizens, trained individuals on ODPS Emergency Resource Teams will be available to respond based on information received from the situational assessment team. These teams will be ready to deploy within 3-5 hours of being notified. Local and county authorities will continue to determine if or when state resources are needed.

## Patrol Out for Blood in Guns-N-Hoses Donation Competition

### *July 9 Blood Drive at the Academy*

Summer often means outdoor activities, but it also marks the beginning of trauma season in Ohio – the time of year when motor vehicle crashes and traumatic injuries increase and the need for blood often exceeds the supply.

With so many summer activities, the number of people who take time to donate blood decreases. That is why the Patrol is teaming up with the American Red Cross for the 19th annual Guns-N-Hoses blood donation campaign, June 26 - July 31.

“Just one donation can save up to three lives and impact countless others,” said Colonel Paul A. Pride, superintendent. “I am encouraging all first responders to donate blood this trauma season, and in turn, encourage their friends, family and communities to join us in helping to save lives.”

As part of the Patrol’s commitment to this cause, the Patrol will be hosting a Guns-N-Hoses Blood Drive in the Academy Gymnasium on July 9 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Division personnel are authorized to donate blood at the end of their shift, when operationally feasible, with supervisor’s approval.

Any questions about the campaign or how to participate can be directed to Jessica Pierson in the Public Affairs Unit at 614-752-4331.

### How to Donate Blood

To schedule an appointment to donate, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS or contact your local Red Cross Chapter.

### About the American Red Cross

The Central Ohio Blood Services Region serves 27 counties and needs 800 blood donors each day to meet patient needs in 41 hospitals.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies more than 40 percent of the nation’s blood; teaches skills that help save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families.

The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

## Fermina Sanchez Retires

—continued from page 5

Sanchez remembers being the only secretary who had an electric typewriter. “It was a very big deal when all the secretaries got the new IBM Wheelwriter Typewriters. I still use mine on a daily basis. I think I would seriously hurt anyone who tried to take it away from me,” explained Sanchez. “In fact, I never computerized several programs like other secretaries did. I have kept a 3 x 5 index card on each employee to record the issuance of service insignia and also yearly evaluations.”

The 1980s brought on a surge of technology and computers were introduced into the field. Up to the age of computers, anything electronic was done on the teletype machine.

“I can remember having to record everyone’s vacation and sick leave hours on the yellow service records in each personnel file. I also had to type all the vacation and sick leave requests for DHQ and Warren Post personnel. There weren’t secretaries at the posts yet. We also received all the paper leave requests from the field for approval at DHQ. Needless to say, it was a really big deal,” remembers Sanchez. “We didn’t have an IT person to go to when we got

the computers. They gave each of us a manual, that was about 6 inches thick and weighed 10 pounds, to read. Nothing made sense. Fortunately one of my nieces was computer savvy and I would call her and ask her what different things meant and she’d tell me. Retired Lt. Colonel Bill Costas was a sergeant at the Chardon Post at the time, and was computer knowledgeable. He came to DHQ for a few days and worked with us. He was able to put things in layman’s terms that made sense.”

Over the years, several historical events took place, such as when President Kennedy was shot in November 1963.

“We had a barracks upstairs and a newly transferred trooper who had his radio on came down to tell us what had happened. But I’d say the very worst day was September 11, 2001. One of the dispatchers announced over the PA system that a plane had crashed into the World Trade Center. We all were huddled around the small TV and sadly watched as the second plane crashed into the other tower. Civil Defense training was going on that day at our local Air Force Base and I remember calling Captain Costas to tell him,” explained Sanchez.

In 2009, members of the former Warren District surprised her with a brunch in her honor. Lt. Colonel Costas presented her with her 50-year service pin.

During her time with the Patrol there are a few things that she will never forget.

“I had only been working a year when my father passed away unexpectedly. I can’t begin to express how grateful my family and I were for the State Patrol’s acts of kindness and the honor they showed my father,” remembered Sanchez. “He had an honor guard at the funeral home for two days and nights, calling hours and an escort to the cemetery. I had never seen anything like that before. It left quite an impression, not only on me, but my family and friends.”

In reflection, that is the moment she knew she was part of a family.

“Everyone rallied around each other back then, whether if it was to help someone build a garage, put a yard in or just baby sit. It truly was a ‘Patrol Family’ that was supportive and caring. It’s good to see that it’s coming back. I sincerely hope for the younger generation that it does, because if not, they will never know what it was like.”

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

 [www.facebook.com/ohiostatehighwaypatol](http://www.facebook.com/ohiostatehighwaypatol)

I used to hate cops because I had a severe drug addiction. I got pulled over one day by the Ohio State Patrol. I had a lot of pills on me and I was very high and the officer treated me extremely nice and fair, and because of that conviction, I have now been clean for three years. You guys saved my life without a doubt, and I will forever be in debt to you for that! You gave me my life back and I deeply appreciate that. You guys will always have my full support. Thank you!

Thank you @OSHP for presenting to our juniors & seniors today to increase safety & awareness during the upcoming #prom wknd! #Appreciative

I just wanted to thank all of you for what you do. You guys rock! Back in October of 2001, I was hit by a drunk driver, and the Highway Patrol officer was so good to me. I remember meeting with him the next morning. He told me the guy who did this to you will never do this again, and he made sure of that. Thirteen years have passed now and I'm very happy there are people like you out there. Stay safe and again thank you for all you do! Keep up the good work.

I wanted to take a moment to tell you how appreciative I am of Tpr. Sean Eitel. I was traveling from Pennsylvania to Middletown, Ohio, to visit my grandchildren when I encountered a flat tire on March 22, at approximately 12:40 a.m. I am embarrassed to say I had no idea how to change a flat tire. As you can imagine, I was a little scared to be out on the side of an interstate after midnight with no clue how to change a flat tire.

I had been there for about 10 minutes when Tpr. Eitel drove up. From the time he got out of his vehicle, he was a complete gentleman. He took the time to change my tire, all the while educating me on the process just in case I found myself in this predicament again.

I asked him for his card so I could inform his superiors of Tpr. Eitel going above and beyond his duties. I noticed on his card it states, "Excellence in Service" and that is exactly what

 [www.twitter.com/oshp](http://www.twitter.com/oshp)

I saw. If it weren't for Tpr. Eitel, I don't know what I would have done. He was definitely a knight in shining armor for me!

I just want to say a thank you for what the troopers do to help keep our roads safer. I saw this on my way to Lancaster this morning on 33. So nice to know the lady got her vehicle's tire changed along the highway like that. Thank you!



**Pictured: Lt. Craig Cvetan changes a tire for a motorist.**

Hey @OSHP, I called your statistics office to get pedestrian-involved crash data and received great customer service. Thanks!

Kudos for the commercial team working with Alliance PD today. As a retired OSHP Sergeant I was proud to see them working closely with our local police officers. Awesome job!

I would like to say thank you to Trooper Neff of the Cambridge Post. During one of the worst cold snaps we have had in recent history Trooper Neff came to aid. I was returning home from work when my car broke down. The outside air temperature was minus 18 degrees. My heater of course wasn't working. Trooper Neff saw that I was in trouble and stopped to ensure my safety. He was kind enough to transport me to a service station where I was able to stay warm until I was able to get a tow. Without his assistance I would have been in very serious trouble in those subzero temperatures.



### *156th Class Begins*

The 156th Academy Class commenced training on April 16, with 41 cadets expected to graduate in October.

The cadets will train for 22 weeks and complete courses including Core Values, crash investigation, criminal and traffic law, detection of impaired drivers, firearms, physical fitness, and self-defense. The cadets also will receive training in motor vehicle operations.

After graduation, their first 60 working days will be a field-training period under the guidance of a veteran officer.

## Recent Ohio Investigative Unit Successes

State gives CMSD computers seized in gambling raids

By Thomas Ott, CMSD



The Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) will find legitimate uses for hundreds of computers seized in gambling raids at Internet cafes.

The CMSD Board of Education voted on April 29 to accept 654 computer monitors from the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU). The monitors have 654 computer cords, 640 computer mice, 631 keyboards, 525 hard drives, eight televisions and numerous firewalls, routers, card readers and web cameras.

The computers were confiscated from nine Internet cafes in Cuyahoga County, part of a network that used software supplied by New Jersey-based VS2 Worldwide Communications. OIU's Cleveland office handled the case, along with the county prosecutor's office, Secret Service and Parma Heights police.

The computers will replace the district's oldest stock. Euclid Park PreK-8 School will be the first recipient.

VS2 pleaded guilty last September to a reduced charge of attempted racketeering and gambling, paid a \$10,000 fine and agreed to stop doing business in the state. Assistant Agent-in-Charge Robert Boldin said the case has resulted in 29 convictions and a number of fines.

State investigators said they chose CMSD for the donation because the district covers a large portion of the county and has an information technology department that can handle the volume of computers.

Boldin said most of the equipment is three to four years old. He estimated the total value at \$350,000 to \$400,000.

### Gambling indictment in multi-agency investigation

A North Royalton man has been indicted by a Cuyahoga County Grand Jury on multiple counts of gambling, money laundering and possession of criminal tools after a multi-agency investigation into a gambling ring in Northeast Ohio. This is part of a larger on-going investigation into the manufacture, distribution and operation of electronic video slot machines. Numerous additional indictments are expected to be presented to the Cuyahoga County

Grand Jury at a later date.

Through an extensive investigation, agents with the Ohio Investigative Unit, the United States Secret Service's Northern Ohio Organized Crime Task Force, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office have connected Martin Sarcyk, 61, to a number of locations where search warrants were conducted on April 23.

"Illegal gambling continues to be a problem, by promoting criminal activity," said Ohio Department of Public Safety Director John Born. "The search warrants conducted today provide an example to all Ohioans that we are committed to making Ohio safer."

Search warrants were conducted at 17 locations in Northeast Ohio.

"The search warrants served today should send a clear message to those trying to bypass the law that illegal gambling will not be tolerated in this state," said Attorney General Mike DeWine. "This case is just one example of how local, state, and federal authorities are working together to shut down illegal gambling operations."

This is the second time since May 2012 investigators have filed charges against Sarcyk, who was convicted in May 2013 of money laundering and multiple felony gambling counts after state and federal investigators discovered his involvement in illegal internet sweepstakes gambling and the operation of a sports bookmaking ring.

"We will keep arresting repeat offenders like Martin Sarcyk who choose to continue their illegal gambling operations," said Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Timothy J. McGinty. "We will not let them take root in Cuyahoga County. Let today's seizures and arrests be a warning to others looking to bilk the public. They will lose their illicit profits, they will lose their slot machines and they will wake up in a hotel where they paint the cement floors."

Other agencies involved in the investigation include the United States Marshals Service and the United States Postal Inspection Service; the Ohio State Highway Patrol Vehicle Theft Unit; the Parma Heights, Euclid, Cleveland, Mentor and Wooster police departments; and prosecutors with the Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Section, and the Lake and Wayne county prosecutor's offices.



## Recent Vehicle Theft Unit Successes

### Findlay District Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

The Findlay Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit (VTFU) was instrumental in the recovery of nine stolen vehicles valued at more than \$207,000. A well-known auto thief from Detroit, Mich., was the primary suspect in the investigation.

The suspect was found to be stealing vehicles via fraudulent wire transfers and fake cashier's checks. The suspect would locate newer, expensive vehicles on Craigslist and then purport to purchase the vehicles through fraudulent means. The suspect would subsequently take possession of the vehicles and immediately sell them to unsuspecting innocent purchasers and car dealerships before the original owners or banks discovered that the funds were fraudulent.

A covert operation was conducted between the Findlay VTFU and the FBI in Cleveland. Investigators listed a "bait" ad on Craigslist in order to lure the suspect into purchasing a vehicle, and he contacted the undercover investigators to purchase the vehicle. Investigators were able to keep the suspect engaged while maintaining the vehicle would be delivered to a



location in Detroit, which was chosen by the suspect.

Investigators were then able to track the suspect's cell phone during the transaction. The suspect was located walking down a city street in Detroit and was arrested without incident. The suspect is currently in federal custody awaiting trial. He is alleged to have stolen millions of dollars in vehicles over the past decade.

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### Wilmington District Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

An investigation began in January in which the Owensville Police Department asked the Wilmington Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit (VTFU) to take over an auto theft investigation. Ultimately, the VTFU was able to link this investigation to two other ongoing auto theft investigations. The investigation led to the identification of a suspect, the recovery of a 1987 Chevrolet Z28 Camaro that was stolen off a car lot in Owensville and the recovery of a 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle that had been reported stolen to the Brown County Sheriff's Office in November.

The suspect was indicted in Clermont County Common Pleas Court for counts of grand theft auto, receiving stolen property and tampering with vehicle identification numbers. The suspect had been released from prison one year earlier for similar offenses.



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### Cleveland District Vehicle Theft and Fraud Unit

On April 24, Tpr. J.M. Reno testified before a Mahoning County Grand Jury and received a true bill for a 29-count indictment against 12 suspects. Charges in the indictment include RICO, theft, breaking and entering and receiving stolen property for the top five suspects in the theft ring. The other seven suspects received charges of theft and receiving stolen property. One of the top five suspects is believed to be hiding in Florida to avoid arrest.

The case involved an organized theft ring comprised of individuals who were breaking into landscaping or similar businesses and garages to steal mowers, vehicles (some high-end), classic cars, trailers and equipment. A covert GPS unit was used to track one of the suspect's movements, and eventually led to the recovery of stolen vehicles and property.

Search warrants, numerous consent to searches and interviews were conducted during the course of the investigation.

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

## Certificate of Recognition

**Agent Daniel J. Mone and Agent John Phillips**, Ohio Investigative Unit, received Certificates of Recognition for their efforts to save the life of a crash victim. On January 30, Agent Mone and Agent Phillips were on duty when they came upon a one-vehicle injury crash on State Route 422 in Cuyahoga County. The agents reported the crash to Patrol dispatch and then stopped to assist.

Upon approaching the vehicle, the agents found the female driver unresponsive and slumped over the steering wheel. The agents broke the back, driver-side window to reach the woman. Unable to locate

the victim's pulse or observe breathing, Agents Mone and Phillips immediately deployed an automated external defibrillator and began CPR. After about 20 minutes, emergency medical personnel arrived on the scene and took over treatment of the victim, who was transported to Hillcrest Hospital where she underwent emergency surgery.

Although the victim succumbed to her injuries three days later, the actions of Agent Mone and Agent Phillips gave the victim her best chance of survival and allowed her loved ones the opportunity to be with her at the end of her life.



## Over the Hill

Twelve new members joined the Patrol's "Over the Hill" club. The remaining active members of the 113th Class achieved 30 years of service on April 9.

**Back row, from left: Tpr. John W. Asbrock, Tpr. David K. Mills, Sgt. Jeffery L. Klem, Tpr. Jeffery T. Fowler, Tpr. Jesus J. Reyes and Sgt. Mark S. Bocsy.**

**Front row, from left: Sgt. James A. Russell Jr., Tpr. Alan S. Derikito, Lt. Mary A. Pfeifer, Tpr. Steven T. Circle, and Sgt. Rod W. Tyree.**



## OSHP TRAINING

On March 28, **Lt. Rudolph L. Zupanc**, the Hub, graduated with his Master of Arts in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), Center for Homeland Defense and Security in Monterey, California.

The graduates are comprised of professionals from law enforcement, fire safety, homeland security, the military and academia. The degree program requires 18 months of continuous enrollment and coursework and a thesis. It involves a significant commitment on the part of the participants and the agencies to which they are assigned.

Each quarter requires two weeks in residence at the NPS campus, located in Monterey, California, or at the National Capital Region campus located in West Virginia. The remainder of the coursework is completed via network-based learning. Participants spend an average of 15 hours per week during the network-based learning periods of study—reading assigned materials, participating in online discussions with faculty and other participants, and preparing papers and projects.



**Rudolph L. Zupanc**

**Patrol Wins Best Dressed Award**



The Ohio State Highway Patrol was named the 2014 Best Dressed Public Safety Agency with between 2,000 and 3,000 officers by the North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers & Distributors (NAUMD). The honor was shared with Roy Tailors Uniform Co., of Columbus, Ohio, and Galls of Lexington, Ky., which stock the Patrol’s uniforms.

“The presence of well-uniformed law enforcement professionals in the community reduces anxiety and allows the general public to feel safe and secure,” said Richard J. Lerman, President and CEO of the NAUMD. “A professionally created

public safety uniform program consists of a well-designed set of garments and accessories that improves both the image and overall comfort of those who proudly wear them. New technologies, fabric enhancements and innovation in design and composition are keys to being judged the best of the best.”

The Patrol also won the best-dressed award in 2003. North American Association of Uniform Manufacturers & Distributors (NAUMD) Best Dressed Public Safety Awards is open to all 118 NAUMD member distributors, 267 manufacturers and public safety departments across North America.

**GHQ**



Tpr. Eric Ruffin recently hosted a group of 6th through 8th grade students from the Columbus Preparatory School for Boys for a talk and tour of the Training Academy as part of a program sponsored by the After School All Stars.

Tpr. Ruffin enlisted the help of Lt. Col. George Williams, Major Mike Black, Capt. Art Combest, S/Lt. Chris Johnson, S/Lt. Pat Kellum, Lt. Chad Neal, Lt. Chuck Jones and Sgt. Gamal Brimah to talk to the boys about persevering through adversity and hardship and becoming successful in spite of circumstance.

**Norwalk**



Tpr. Thomas Halko and Officer Ditz (Norwalk Police) collected food for Operation Feed at the Norwalk Wal-Mart on May 10. They collected about 630 pounds of food and \$33 to benefit the local Norwalk area food bank.

**Findlay**



On April 24, Girl Scout Troop 20216 from Van Buren School toured the Findlay Post. They met with Tpr. Justin Powell, Disp. Katie Richards and Tpr. Eric Stroud and his canine Dark.

**Start Talking / 5 Minutes for Life**



The Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network (OYLPN), managed by Drug Free Action Alliance, along with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ohio National Alliance on Mental Illness hosted a “We Are the Majority” Rally April 30 in downtown Columbus, Ohio. The rally attracted more than 1,900 students from across Ohio, who marched from Columbus Commons to the Statehouse with the mission of illustrating that a majority of teens do not use any drugs. Ohio Department of Public Safety Director John Born spoke to the students about the *5 Minutes for Life* program and Governor John R. Kasich met with a group of the program’s student ambassadors.



**Xenia**



The Greene County Safe Communities Coalition, which included the Xenia Post, the Beavercreek Police Department, the Greene County Health Department and the Kelly Jones Insurance Agency sponsored the 2014 Spring Break Seat Belt Challenge among eight local high schools.

The challenge encouraged students to buckle up—every trip, every time. The week prior to each high school’s spring break, announcements about the dangers of driving unbelted, statistics and encouraging messages were provided, and an unannounced seatbelt survey was completed at the school that week. Beavercreek High School had the highest percentage of students buckled as they left at the end of the school day and won a cash prize sponsored by Kelly Jones Insurance.

**Field Operations**



From left: Capt. Art Combest (judge), Andrew Clark, (first place), Marshall Thompson (third place), Julie Lee (second place), Major John Bistor and Lt. Larry Roseboro (judges).

On April 11, the Office of Field Operations hosted its Third Annual Chili Cook-Off to benefit Operation Feed, raising nearly \$100. It should be noted that Major Bistor did not submit an entry and was therefore ineligible for “another” trophy! He did, however, provide his self-proclaimed “Hall of Fame” chili (complete with shrine) for patrons’ edification.

## Cambridge District



Cambridge District OIS and Crash Reconstruction hosted crime scene training featuring a mock hit-skip fatal crash scene and a second scene where the suspect vehicle was located. Training included interviewing witnesses, securing the scene and evidence identification, mapping and collection. Newly commissioned troopers made up the majority of trainees to help ensure they understand the importance of crime scene investigation and are aware of resources available them. Tpr. Rick Wells coordinated the training and CAD Specialist Lori Stein photographed the event.

## GHQ



From left: Capt. Rob Jackson, Courtney Cahill from Columbus Nationwide Children's Hospital Foundation, External Auditor Gabbriel Crissinger and Lt. Col. Kevin Teaford.

On February 16, 70 Patrol employees, retirees, auxiliaries and family members enjoyed an afternoon of bowling at the Columbus Square Bowling Palace and helped raise \$869 for the Columbus Children's Hospital Trauma Unit.

## New Philadelphia

Sgt. Gary Wolfe, Tpr. Clinton Armstrong and the Tuscarawas County Safe Kids Coalition conducted a seat belt education detail at Tuscarawas Valley High School on April 17.



## Piqua



Sgt. Vee Witcher and his wife Marion were recently recognized by the Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Lambda Chapter, for their volunteer service.

Vee and Marion have two children, Verano, 22, and Ashley, 27. Ashley is challenged with autism and epilepsy, and Vee and Marion know firsthand the joys, challenges and struggles of raising a child with a disability. Wanting to help others, Marion founded a support group called New Hope for Special Needs. Vee and Marion provide support to other families by maintaining a prayer website, hosting special needs workshops and distributing special needs literature.

They also have assisted in providing scholarships to students majoring in special education, founded a special needs ministry within their church community and founded and serve as coaches for their church's Special Olympics team.

## Wilmington



Tpr. Jim Adams (center) received his 35 years of service stars at the Wilmington District Awards from his coach, retired Tpr. Bill Baugus (left), and Capt. Paul Hermes (right).

## Michelle D. Gillard

Captain Michelle D. Gillard, Office of Criminal Investigations, retired on May 30, 2014, after 25 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in May 1989 as a member of the 118th Academy Class. She earned her commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Cambridge Post. In 1993, she transferred to the Zanesville Post, where she was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1994. In 1996, she transferred to the Office of Criminal Investigations. In 1998, she was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Office of Personnel, Administrative Investigations Unit. In July 2000, she transferred to the Office of the Superintendent to serve as the executive officer. She was promoted to the rank of lieutenant later that year. In 2004, she was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and continued to serve in the Office of the Superintendent. Later that year, she transferred back to the Office of Criminal Investigations.



In 2006, she was promoted to the rank of captain. As a captain, she served at the Academy in the Office of Personnel, Training Academy and Recruitment, and the Office of Strategic Services, Finance and Logistic Services.

During 2012-2014, Captain Gillard also served as a member of the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission Human Trafficking Task Force. In 2014, the International Chiefs of Police presented Captain Gillard with a Leadership Award for her involvement in the Ohio Law Enforcement Leadership Institute on Violence Against Women.

Captain Gillard completed advanced training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2002 and the Army War College in 2007.

## Roger A. Hannay

Captain Roger A. Hannay, Cleveland District Headquarters, Turnpike Operations, retired on May 2, 2014 after nearly 36 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 1978 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Lisbon Post. He became a member of the 107th Academy Class in January 1980. He earned his commission in May of that year and was assigned to the former Akron Post, where he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement in 1982 and 1984. In 1988, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Lebanon Post where he served as an assistant post commander. In 1995, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and remained at the



Lebanon Post and served as post commander. In 1997, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the former Warren District Headquarters and served as an assistant district commander. In 2005, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the former Berea District Headquarters and served as district commander. As a captain, he has also served at the former Massillon District Headquarters, Office of Strategic Services, Critical Information and Communication Center (CICC) and Turnpike Operations.

Capt. Hannay completed advanced training from the Southern Police Institute in 1997.

## James J. Holt

Captain James J. Holt, Cleveland District Headquarters, retired on April 25, 2014, after more than 36 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 1977 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Canfield Post. He became a member of the 104th Academy Class a year later. He earned his commission in January 1979 and was assigned to the Fremont Post. A year later, he transferred to the Warren Post, where he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year 1984. In 1985, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Mansfield Post to serve as an assistant post commander. While at the Mansfield Post, he earned the O.W. Merrell Meritorious Service Award and the prestigious Superintendent's Citation of Merit Award in 1992. In 1996, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Bucyrus Post to serve as post commander. In 2001, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Bucyrus District Headquarters to serve as a district commander. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to his most recent assignment to oversee the former Warren District, now known as the Cleveland District.



## Robert D. Warner

Staff Lieutenant Robert D. Warner, Office of Field Operations, Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit, retired on May 2, 2014, after 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1985 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the former Akron Post. He became a member of the 116th Academy Class in April 1987. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Milan Post, where in 1988 he earned the Robert M. Chiaramonte Humanitarian Award, which recognizes offi-



cers who are dedicated to humanitarian causes both on the highway and in their communities. In 1993 he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Sandusky Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Mt. Gilead Post to serve as post commander. In 2006, he transferred to the Office of Field Operations, Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and remained in the Licensing and Commercial Standard Unit.

S/Lt. Warner earned an Associated of Applied Science degree in police administration and police science in 1996 from Terra State Community College. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration from Mount Vernon Nazarene College in 2002. He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2004.

### **Charles T. Williams Jr.**

Staff Lieutenant Charles T. Williams Jr., Office of Field Operations Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit, retired on March 28, 2014 after more than 24 years of services. 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 Swanton Post. In 1993, he transferred to the Granville Post. In 1994, he returned to the Swanton Post, where in 1995 he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement and was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Findlay Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2006, he transferred to the Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2008, he was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to the former Massillon District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to his most recent assignment in the Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit.



### **Michael A. Sanders**

Lieutenant Michael A. Sanders, Wilmington Post, retired on April 25, 2014, after 27 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 Georgetown Post, where in



1992 he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. In 1993, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Jackson Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1995, he transferred to the Wilmington Post. In 2000, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Lebanon Post to serve as commander. As a lieutenant, he also served at the Wilmington District Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit; and at the Lebanon, Cincinnati Metro and Wilmington posts.

Lt. Sanders earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in law enforcement from Ohio University in 1986. He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2003.

### **Dean A. Christ**

Sergeant Dean A. Christ, Canton Post, retired on March 21, 2014, after nearly 35 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1979 as a member of the 106th Academy Class. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the former Akron Post, where he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 1985. In 1992, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Hiram Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1996, he returned to the former Akron Post, before transferring to his most recent assignment at the Canton Post in 2001.



### **Donald W. Combs**

Sergeant Donald W. Combs, Hamilton Post, retired on May 16, 2014, after 33 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1981 as a member of the 110th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Lancaster Post. In 1983 he transferred to the Hamilton Post, where in 1992 he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year by his peers. In 1994, he transferred to the Lebanon Post. In 1997, he returned to the Hamilton Post. Nearly a year later, he transferred to the Wilmington District Criminal Investigations to serve as a plainclothes officer. In 2000, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the former Eaton Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2001, he returned to the Lebanon Post. In 2004, he returned to his most recent assignment at the Hamilton Post.



## Clark M. Felix Jr.

Sergeant Clark M. Felix Jr., Zanesville Post, retired on April 4, 2014, after 27 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 Athens Post. In 1989, he transferred to the Cambridge Post, where in 1992 he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. In 1994, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the St. Clairsville Post to serve as an assistant post commander. Several months later, he transferred to his most recent assignment at the Zanesville Post.



## James A. Russell

Sergeant James A. Russell, Hamilton Post, retired on May 22, 2014, after more than 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in December 1983 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Defiance Post. He became a member of the 113th Academy Class in April 1984. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Fremont Post. In 1985, he transferred to the Lima Post, where he earned a Certificate of Recognition in 1988. He earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement and was selected as Post Trooper of the Year by his peers in 1990. In 1992, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to his most recent assignment at the Hamilton Post to serve as an assistant post commander. The Ohio National Guard awarded Sgt. Russell the Ohio Commendation Medal for his assistance during the Lucasville Riots in 1993.



He earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in criminal justice from the University of Cincinnati in 2003.

## Lawrence W. Argentine

Trooper Lawrence W. Argentine, New Philadelphia, retired on May 23, 2014, after 21 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 Zanesville Post. As a trooper, he also served at the New Philadelphia and Steubenville posts.

## Lee E. Burnem Jr.

Trooper Lee E. Burnem Jr., Jackson District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on May 3, 2014, after 23 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 Gallipolis Post. In 1997, he transferred to his most recent assignment at the Jackson District Commercial Enforcement Unit, where in 2007 and 2008 he earned the Trooper Recognition Award.



## Bryan C. Conley

Trooper Bryan C. Conley, Portsmouth, entered disability retirement on April 20, 2014, after nearly 23 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 Jackson Post. In 1992, he transferred to his most recent assignment at the Portsmouth Post, where in 2005 he earned the Criminal Patrol Award. In 2006, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement and was selected as Post Trooper of the Year by his peers.



## Gary L. McKenna

Trooper Gary L. McKenna, Cleveland District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on May 30, 2014, after more than 31 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 Hiram Post. As a trooper, he has served at the Canton, Wooster and Medina posts, and at the former Massillon and Warren District Commercial Enforcement units.



## Shannon M. Moorhead

Trooper Shannon M. Moorhead, Chillicothe Post, entered disability separation in November 2012. In April 2014, she was reinstated prior to her retirement after serving 23 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in August 1989 as administrative staff at the Sandusky Post. She became a member of the 121st Academy Class in May 1991. She earned her commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Ashland Post. She also served at the Jackson District Headquarters and at the Gallipolis, Portsmouth and Chillicothe posts.



## Debra Adkins-Luther

Enforcement Agent Debra Adkins-Luther retired on May 30, 2014 after more than 25 years of service. She was hired in January 1989 as an enforcement agent with the then Ohio Department of Liquor Control. Over the years, Adkins-Luther was assigned to the Athens and Columbus District offices, as well as the Special Squad.



She also acted as a Sober Truth agent, a field training officer, assisted as an agency training instructor and was qualified to testify in court as an expert in motorcycle gangs.

Adkins-Luther is an instructor at several police academies and a high school law enforcement program at the Pickaway-Ross Career Technology Center, where she also serves on the advisory board. She is an investigative specialist for arrest-related and in-custody death investigation, as well as an electronic conductive device forensic analyst.

During her time with OIU, she served on the board of directors for the Ohio Council on Welfare Fraud. Adkins-Luther was presented with the Governor's Award when she saved the life of her partner while they were on duty. Prior to her service with OIU, Adkins-Luther served as an undercover narcotics private contractor for the Union and Logan county sheriff offices, and the Urbana Police Department. Adkins-Luther completed the New Boston Police Academy in 1986.

## Albert J. Allen

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector (MCEI) Albert J. Allen, Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on March 28, 2014, after more than 27 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in August 1986 as a MCEI at the former Massillon District, where in 2006 he earned the Employee Recognition Award. In 2012, he transferred to his most recent assignment at the Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, where in 2013 he earned the Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector of the Year Award.



## Joseph A. Elcess

Motor Vehicle Inspector Joseph A. Elcess, Jackson District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on March 31, 2014, after more than 27 year with the Patrol. He was hired in August 1986 and served the Jackson District throughout his career.



## Tina L. Eley

Motor Vehicle Inspector Tina L. Eley, Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on March 28, 2014, after 32 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career as a custodial worker at the Van Wert Post in March 1982. In 1984, she was promoted to a motor vehicle inspector and remained at the Van Wert Post throughout her career.



## Michael T. Postel

Stationary Load Limit Inspector Michael T. Postel, Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on May 10, 2014, after nearly 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 1985 as a stationary load limit inspector assigned to the Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 1985, he transferred to the New Philadelphia Post. In 1987, he returned to the Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



## Judy L. Hale

Administrative Professional 1 Judy L. Hale, Defiance Post, retired on May 30, 2014, after more than 24 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in November 1989 as a Clerk 3 and has been assigned to the Defiance Post throughout her career. During her career she also served as a Secretary and an Administrative Professional 1.



Hale earned an associate degree in home science from Morehead State University in 1976.

## Christine L. Untrauer

Dispatcher Supervisor Christine L. Untrauer, Cleveland District Headquarters, retired May 30, 2014, after more than 29 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in 1985 as a dispatcher assigned to the Ravenna Post. In 2000, she was promoted to a Dispatcher 2 and transferred to the Medina Post.



As a Dispatcher 2, she also served at the Ashland, Warren and Ravenna posts. In 2010, she was promoted to a dispatcher supervisor and transferred to her most recent assignment at the Cleveland District Headquarters.

## Jennifer J. Gompf

Administrative Professional 1 Jennifer J. Gompf, Gallipolis Post, retired on March 28, 2014, after more than 20 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in November 1993 as a student helper at the Jackson District Headquarters. In 1996, she was promoted to an Administrative Professional 1 and transferred to the Jackson Post. In 1999, she transferred to her most recent assignment at the Gallipolis Post, where in 2002 and 2013 she earned the Employee Recognition Award.



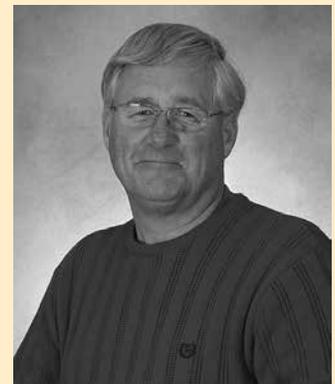
## Linda R. Nelson

Network Administration Supervisor Linda R. Nelson retired on March 21, 2014 after more than 30 years of state service. She began her state career with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction as a word processing specialist in 1984. In 1995, she was promoted to a data system supervisor and transferred to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Recycling. While at ODNR, she served as a Program Specialist 1, Program Specialist 2 and a Network Administrator 2. In 2008, she transferred to the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Information Technology as a network administration supervisor. In 2011, she transferred to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Office of Strategic Services, Technology and Communication Services as a project manager.



## James E. Schramm

Maintenance Repair Worker James E. Schramm, St. Clairsville Post, retired on May 1, 2014, after 34 years of state services. He joined the Patrol in April 1980 as trooper and retired from state service at the rank of sergeant in November 1999. He returned to state services in October 2000 as a maintenance repair worker and has been assigned to the St. Clairsville Post throughout his career.



*Please see retirement information for Lt. Col. Dan Kolcum, page 10, and Administrative Professional 4 Fermina Sanchez, page 5.*

Ever since there was the suggestion to have an eternal flame near the memorial in the Academy courtyard, I have had a passion to see it created and dedicated. This passion grows not out of anything I have done, will ever do or who I am as an individual. It is centered in what others have done and are doing each day to make Ohio a safer place to live.

Each year at the Memorial Ceremony, we pause to remember those who not only served faithfully, but sacrificed valiantly. The family members of those who gave their lives in the line of duty are recognized and remembered. But remembrance without recommitment on the part of those who continue to serve has no real meaning. As President Lincoln declared at Gettysburg, we “resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain.” The mission to make Ohio safer continues to be embraced and fulfilled on a daily basis.

For me, the eternal flame in the Academy courtyard calls to remembrance the burning bush. “He (Moses) looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.” (Exodus 3:2) The flame was a reminder to Moses of all the sacrifices others had made in times past. But it was more than that. It was a call to Moses to respond and become involved in protecting and leading the people into a new and safer life.

The flame at the memorial calls for us to read the names of those who put service above self even at the cost of their own lives. The flame also is a reminder of the call to which others have responded to serve in the ministry of law enforcement. Even as they respond, there is the realization that law enforcement is a dangerous business. A trooper,

investigator or officer never knows what she or he will encounter in the fulfillment of duty on each shift. It can be a traffic stop, a helping hand, a normal encounter with a person or persons who respect the law and appreciate the services of those who enforce it. But it can also be a sudden confrontation, which can bring unfortunate consequences. In short, law enforcement is a dangerous business, as the enforcer deals not only with bad people, but also with bad weather conditions. But the eternal flame reminds us that those who have gone before did not shirk their responsibilities in spite of the danger involved. It also is a constant call for others to step up and fulfill the mission regardless of the cost even of their own lives.

It is interesting to read about the excuses Moses offered in response to the call given to him to be a leader. However, after offering all the excuses, he finally accepted the call and went on to serve the people in a self-sacrificing manner. It seems to me that those involved in law enforcement today could offer a bushel full of excuses as to why they should not have to do what they do each day. But I do not hear any of those excuses. In spite of the challenges and danger, there is a response which is made by everyone in the Ohio State Highway Patrol organization—sworn officer, investigator, civilian status—to contribute whatever he or she can to the mission of the Patrol—a mission to make life safer and better for others. The call to duty may mean giving up time with family and not being able to fulfill personal desires at all times. It is a call which demands sacrifice and confronting danger on a daily basis. But it is a call in which those who respond find fulfillment and meaning for their own



lives because they are serving others.

May the eternal flame be a constant reminder of the supreme sacrifice made by those whose names are engraved on the memorial wall. May the flame also be a reminder of the call which comes to each one today to be certain that those who gave their lives in service will not have done so in vain. Their sacrifice will not only be remembered by the eternal flame, but also by the recommitment each day of those responding to the call to make Ohio a safer place for everyone.

May the eternal flame burn brightly, never to be extinguished, as a symbol of the never-ceasing service rendered each day by all who have served, are now serving and will serve in the future, as members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Respectfully,

*Richard D. Ellsworth*

Richard D. Ellsworth  
State Chaplain

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# TROOPER SHIELD

*Strength Courage Character*

