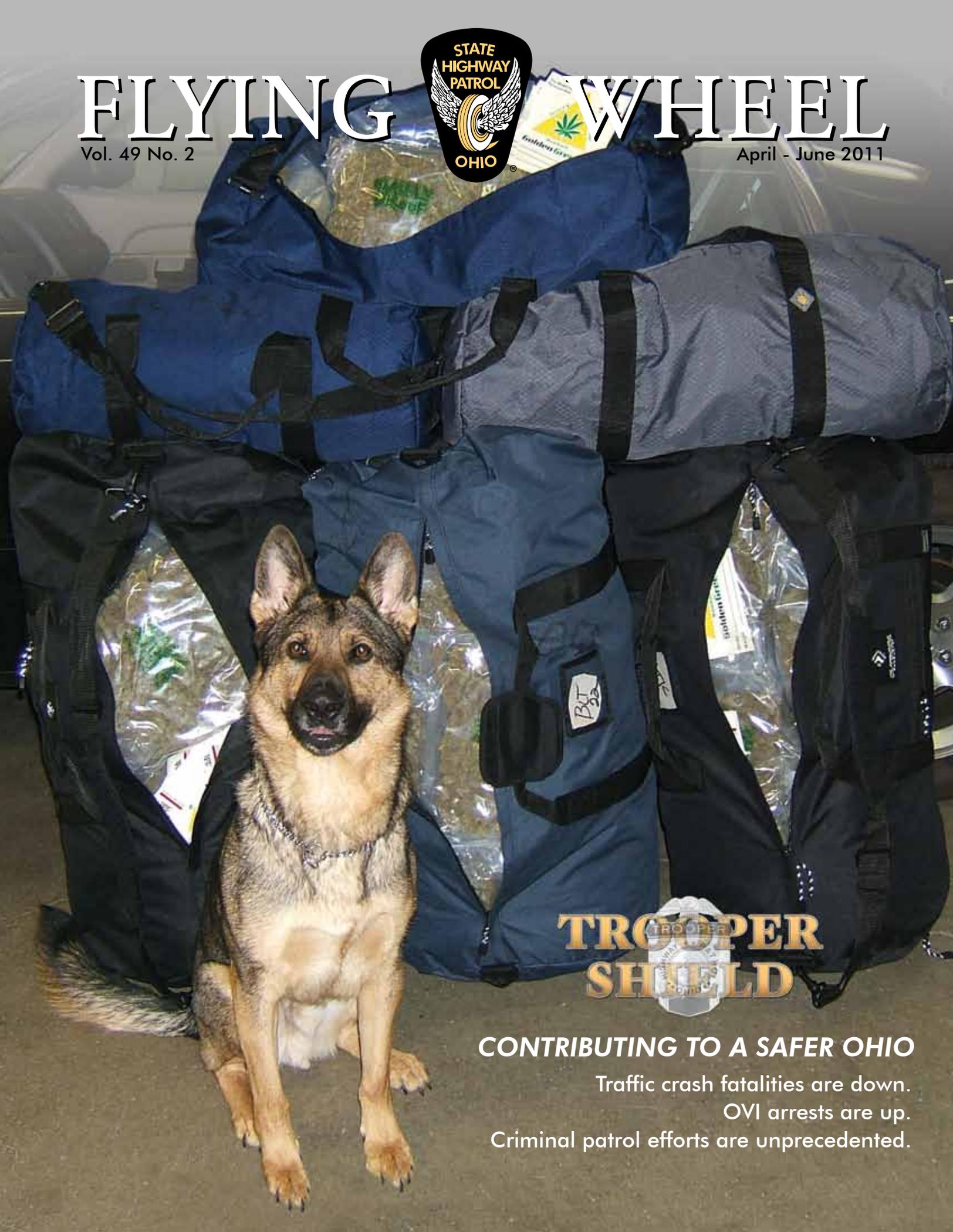


FLYING WHEEL

Vol. 49 No. 2



April - June 2011



**TROOPER
SHIELD**

CONTRIBUTING TO A SAFER OHIO

Traffic crash fatalities are down.

OVI arrests are up.

Criminal patrol efforts are unprecedented.



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On the Cover



The Ohio State Highway Patrol's Criminal Patrol Teams are achieving unparalleled success. After a traffic stop in Lucas County, Tpr. Stacey Arnold's K9 partner, Rony, alerted to the vehicle, leading to the seizure of 106 pounds of BC Bud marijuana valued at more than \$530,000. Please see page 9 for more criminal patrol successes. *Photo by: Tpr. Shane Borton, Toledo Post.*

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

Investing in leaders is a significant theme as we continue moving forward. While leadership development is an ongoing process, there are several new ways in which we will be making further contributions toward the growth and development of leaders in our organization.

As part of our quarterly Commanders Meeting in Columbus on July 7, 2011, we are planning to host a presentation entitled, "Leadership and Perseverance as Core American Values," by former Vietnam War POWs General James E. Sehorn and Colonel Thomas N. Moe, who is presently director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services. The presentation will occur at the Ohio Historical Society, and in keeping with our investing in leaders philosophy, will be open to Ohio State Highway Patrol lieutenants and above, cabinet officials, active members of the Ohio National Guard and U.S. military veterans. The event will also be recorded and archived by Ohio Government Telecommunications for all Patrol employees and retirees.

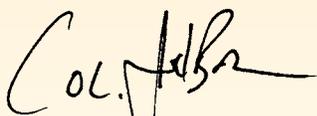
Second, in May 2007, several Patrol officers attended the U.S. Army War College - Strategic Leader Staff Ride at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This invaluable training on command decision-making and leadership helped formulate some of the principals on which our future rests. We are currently exploring ways to send many of the current Ohio State Highway Patrol leaders who are in management-level positions to this training in 2012.

Each year the Ohio State Highway Patrol recognizes the top sworn officers, specialty personnel and professional staff from the previous year. For 2012, we are rebranding this event as the Annual Leadership Awards Banquet. In addition, we are reinstating the West Point Leadership training for sergeants, are looking at other new educational opportunities for investing in leaders and are also refining and improving our trooper-to-sergeant promotional process.

As you are aware, we have made a number of organizational changes to the Ohio State Highway Patrol since January 10, 2011. Within the first 100 days, we made significant progress re-structuring the Patrol to better increase our ability to *Contribute to a Safer Ohio*. Underlying these changes were the primary emphasis to equalize criminal patrol and highway safety; reducing the number of sworn officers assigned to the Shipley Building; reducing the size of the Patrol's senior staff; flattening the organizational structure by including Captains as key advisors in the new Senior Advisor designation; and ensuring we did not increase the number of "brass buttons" (lieutenants and above).

The early criminal patrol successes are unparalleled in our history while simultaneously occurring at a time when overall traffic crash fatalities continue to decline. We transferred over a dozen sworn officers out of the Shipley Building, we assembled the Senior Advisors who meet weekly and we have the fewest number of majors and above in more than 20 years. Overall, we have ensured we have not increased the number of lieutenant and above, but we have increased the numbers of road troopers.

Every Patrol employee has an opportunity to lead - it is your choice to incorporate your life purpose into our agency mission. Whether you are a professional staff employee, a uniformed officer, an Auxiliary unit or a Patrol chaplain, what will you do today to *Contribute to a Safer Ohio*?



Colonel John Born
Superintendent



*What will you do today to
Contribute to a Safer Ohio?*

CRIMINAL PATROL

Troopers Seizing Drugs, Arresting Criminals in Record Numbers

Training almost complete for Patrol's 24th Canine

By Jessica Pierson,
Public Information Officer

The fact Ohio troopers interdicted more than 20,000 pills in just the first four months of 2011 is only a small indication of the success of their efforts to *Contribute to a Safer Ohio*. Traffic crash fatalities are down, OVI arrests are up and criminal patrol efforts are unprecedented.



Capt. Rick Fambro

Under the watchful eye of Capt. Rick Fambro, Criminal Patrol commander, troopers are stopping more vehicles and looking beyond the traffic stop to detect and interdict criminal activity. Through training and interoffice cooperation, the criminal patrol operation is experiencing valuable results.

Through April of this year, drug arrests increased six percent as compared to the same period in 2010. Drug seizures by grams also increased by 102 percent when compared to 2010 levels, with 841,750 grams of narcotics seized, worth an estimated \$8.5 million – and increased 166 percent from the previous three-year average. In addition, Patrol canines were called out over 1,400 times and criminal patrol units worked nearly 10,000 hours dedicating themselves to removing the criminal element and contributing to a safer Ohio.

With the increasing epidemic of prescription drug

abuse in Ohio, the Patrol's Crime Lab has experienced an increase in the past two years in the number of pain medication cases processed. For example, regarding oxycodone alone, numbers have increased from 395 cases in 2008 to 1,050 cases in 2010. In the last four years, prescription pill seizures have increased by 40 percent.

"The Division's increased emphasis on criminal patrol has motivated our men and women across the state to remove the criminal element from Ohio's roadways," Capt. Fambro said. "This motivation can be seen in the increased enforcement and the eagerness to produce results."

Cooperation is Key

Criminal Patrol is more than just the five regional lieutenants, their 10 sergeants, 24 troopers and 24 canines. Criminal patrol now has increased cooperation with personnel from the Office of Investigative Services (OIS) under the leadership of Capt. J.D. Brink, Ph.D.

A year ago, if a criminal patrol unit made a drug seizure, the remainder of that officer's shift could be spent on administrative paperwork and follow-up. Now with increased cooperation, that same unit can pass those responsibilities to an investigator, which allows the specialized criminal patrol unit to get back out on the roads – doing what they do best – removing the criminal element from Ohio's roadways.

This also gives the investigators the opportunity to – *Continued on page 6.*

Southeast Criminal Patrol, from left: Tpr. Sean McLaughlin and K-9 Vestly, Tpr. Theresa Mikesh and K-9 Marco, Tpr. Nick Lewis, Sgt. Michael Warner, Tpr. Bruce Mac Laine and K-9 Bart, Lt. Richard Meadows, Sgt. John Silvey, Tpr. Steve Daugherty, Tpr. Nicholas Johnson and K-9 Sloopy, Tpr. Kurt Kelly and K-9 Helga.



How criminal patrol units are utilizing OIS investigators and Contributing to a Safer Ohio:

1. Piqua District OIS responded to the Wapakoneta Post to assist with the seizure of 2,493 illegal prescription medications. Investigators were able to link and locate the pharmacy and the doctor involved.
2. Jackson District OIS assisted the Jackson District Criminal Patrol Unit in interviewing a suspect who provided information about a drug dealer in the Dayton area. A sting was set-up by OIS and a traffic stop was initiated on the suspected dealer. Subsequently, the units recovered schedule II illegal prescription medication.
3. Findlay District OIS assisted the Findlay Post in interviewing suspects involved with a forgery case that resulted from a traffic stop where troopers seized 15 fraudulent checks, a fake ID, a computer and printer used to make the fraudulent checks, \$30,000 in cash and 30 Oxycontin pills.



Central Regional Criminal Patrol, from left: Tpr. Travis Woodyard and K-9 Miki, Sgt. Mike Kemmer, Tpr. Tami Getz and K-9 Ali (Capitol Operations), Lt. Chuck Jones, Tpr. Dave Bever and K-9 Tosi (Capitol Operations). Not pictured: Tpr. Matt Ruth and K-9 Bento.



– *Continued from page 4.*

conduct a full investigation into the origin and potential destination of the drugs. Under this new working relationship, investigators and criminal intelligence units are now working with other states on a daily basis to follow trends and criminal activity. In turn, troopers receive the same timely intelligence reports used by criminal patrol units to enhance abilities to interdict criminal activity.

“The increased cooperation between the criminal patrol units, OIS investigators and criminal intelligence units is making large strides in removing criminals from Ohio’s roadways,” said Capt. Brink. “The flow of intelligence is not only helping the officers in our state but across the county.”

In addition to the investigators, the Special Response Team (SRT) works closely with criminal patrol units during saturation patrols, warrant services and controlled deliveries of narcotics. Through April of this year, SRT units increased the number of warrants served by 310 percent and increased their overall missions by 272 percent as compared with the same time in 2010.

“One of the most notable successes of our interoffice working relationship is the Scioto County multi-agency drug enforcement saturation patrol,” said S/Lt. Steve Rosta, SRT commander. “Working together we were able to take a substantial amount of drugs out of the community and arrest 18 high-profile felons.”

During the Scioto County drug enforcement initiative, the Patrol joined forces with state and local law enforcement agencies in Scioto County on February 24–25

and March 3–4, to combat the county’s rising drug abuse problem. These successful enforcement saturation patrols netted 1,082 traffic stops and 382 arrests – of which 21 involved impaired driving – and initiated 87 cases, including 38 felony cases.

The Scioto County Sheriff’s Office and the Patrol’s SRT served 18 high-profile warrants and officers apprehended an additional 34 wanted felons through traffic stops. During one traffic stop, a trooper arrested a pharmacist who was in possession of 904 pills, along with crushed pills and liquid morphine.

In total, officers seized 1,376 illegal prescription pills – including oxycodone, vicodin and xanax – 30 grams of heroin, 14.2 grams of crack cocaine, 62 grams of marijuana, .25 grams of methamphetamine, \$1,704 in drug money, two vehicles and closed down two meth-labs.

The Scioto County Sheriff’s Office, Portsmouth Police Department, New Boston Police Department, Ohio Investigative Unit, Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, Scioto County Prosecutor’s Office and Scioto County Probation, N&S Railroad Police and Ohio’s High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Task Force (HIDTA) worked these saturation patrols.

Emphasis on Training

In addition to the OIS-SRT interoffice cooperation, the training of road troopers statewide to look for criminal indicators and to look beyond the initial traffic stop has had a huge impact on criminal patrol operations.

– *Continued on next page.*

Northeast Regional Criminal Patrol, from left: Tpr. Richard Menges and K-9 Johnny, Tpr. Michael Trader and K-9 Argo, Tpr. Erik Golias (K-9 Argo not pictured), Sgt. Neil Laughlin, Lt. Michael Combs, Sgt. Terry Helton, Sgt. Leo Shirkey, Tpr. Ricky Caraway and K-9 Hondo, Tpr. Joel Smith and K-9 Diego.



Through the leadership of Capt. Brigette Charles, Academy Commandant, criminal patrol regional training sessions are occurring throughout the state through the end of August.

The one-day criminal patrol regional training course covers a search and seizure section and sections in criminal interdiction awareness, report writing and testifying in court by instructors Sgt. Terry Helton, Tpr. Shaun Smart, Tpr. Theresa Mikesh, Tpr. Nicholas Johnson, Tpr. Alejo Romero, Tpr. Stacey Arnold and Tpr. Kurt Beidelschies.

Through the end of April, 388 Patrol personnel had completed this training. The training had also been given to 10 outside agencies, with an additional 19 agencies registered for future trainings.

The Patrol's Master Trainer, Daniel J. Bowman, owner of Gold Shield Canine Training, LLC, who has been under contract with the Patrol for more than a year, is offering quarterly canine training for all criminal patrol units.

The 2011 second quarter training is currently underway, with all districts completing the training by mid-summer. This quarterly training is meant as a refresher course for both the handler and the canine to ensure that both are still operating consistent with their initial training. This is also an opportunity for the handlers to address and correct any behavioral or obedience issues that have developed in the canine over the previous three months.

Recently the Patrol added its 24th canine, Argo, an 18-month-old Belgium Malinois from the Netherlands. Argo completed initial training in obedience, tracking, criminal apprehension and reasonable force, as well as article, building and area searches with Master Trainer Bowman. Argo is finishing up training with his new handler, Tpr. Erik Golias, of the Northeast Regional Criminal Patrol team and Master Trainer Bowman.

– Continued on next page.



Master Trainer Daniel J. Bowman works with Tpr. Erik Golias and K-9 Argo.

Northwest Regional Criminal Patrol, from left: Tpr. Gary Wolfe and K-9 Roy, Tpr. Stacey Arnold and K-9 Rony, Lt. William Stidham, Tpr. Al Romero and K-9 Hans, Tpr. Ryan Stewart and K-9 Cheisa, Sgt. Doug Hamman, Tpr. Dave Norman and K-9 Storm.



– Continued from previous page.

Once Argo completes all of his training, he will be the Patrol’s 13th dual-purpose canine, specializing in both narcotics detection and tracking. The Patrol also has nine narcotic-detection canines and two bomb-detecting/dual-purpose canines which are assigned to the Ohio Statehouse. These two bomb/dual-purpose canines are part of the Capitol Operations Unit.

Structure

The five Regional Team commanders are managing the criminal patrol units to ensure sergeants can focus on operations and investigations instead of administrative duties. These commanders are: Lt. Chuck Jones, Central Regional Criminal Patrol; Lt. William Stidham, Northwest Regional Criminal Patrol; Lt. Michael Combs, Northeast Regional Criminal Patrol; Lt. Jon Payer, Southwest Regional Criminal Patrol; and Lt. Richard Meadows, Southeast Regional Criminal Patrol.

“I am very excited about the new structure of the Criminal Patrol operation. The renewed energy and enthusiasm for the program is incredible,” said Major Paul Pride, Special Operations commander. “The five regional criminal patrol commanders have been an integral part of the success the operation is experiencing.”

Governor signs “Pill Mill” Law at Patrol Crime Lab



On May 20, 2011, Governor John Kasich signed House Bill 93, also known as the “pill mill” law, at the Patrol’s Crime Lab. The law – which went into effect immediately – enhances the computerized Ohio Automated Rx Review System to help identify extensive prescription drug use. It also limits prescribers’ ability to furnish certain drugs, improves licensing of pain-management clinics and develops a statewide prescription drug “take-back” program. As Gov. Kasich’s signed the bill, a table to his right was covered with prescription medication confiscated by the Patrol.

Southwest Regional Criminal Patrol, from left: Tpr. Rich Barrett and K-9 Benzo, Tpr. Shaun Smart (K-9 Rita not pictured), Tpr. Darren Fussner (K-9 Jango not pictured), Tpr. Scott Bierer, Sgt. Chris Coverstone, Lt. Jon Payer, Sgt. Joe Luebbbers, Tpr. Shawn Simms (K-9 Lady not pictured) and Tpr. Scott Fox (K-9 Muki not pictured).



Ohio Senators Praise Capitol Security

Ohio and several other states made national news this spring as lawmakers considered legislation to change collective bargaining for public employees. Ohio's Senate Bill 5 drew interest from opponents and supporters from around the state, with thousands of citizens converging on the Statehouse over a number of days while the bill was under consideration.

Balancing safety with security while maintaining public access to government buildings poses a unique challenge for post-9/11 law enforcement. This challenge, as many agencies have experienced, is constantly evolving due to operational, political and economic reasons. We know that with tightening budgets and increased responsibilities, we must be thorough in our approach to providing an appropriate level of safety and security while maintaining

public access to government buildings.

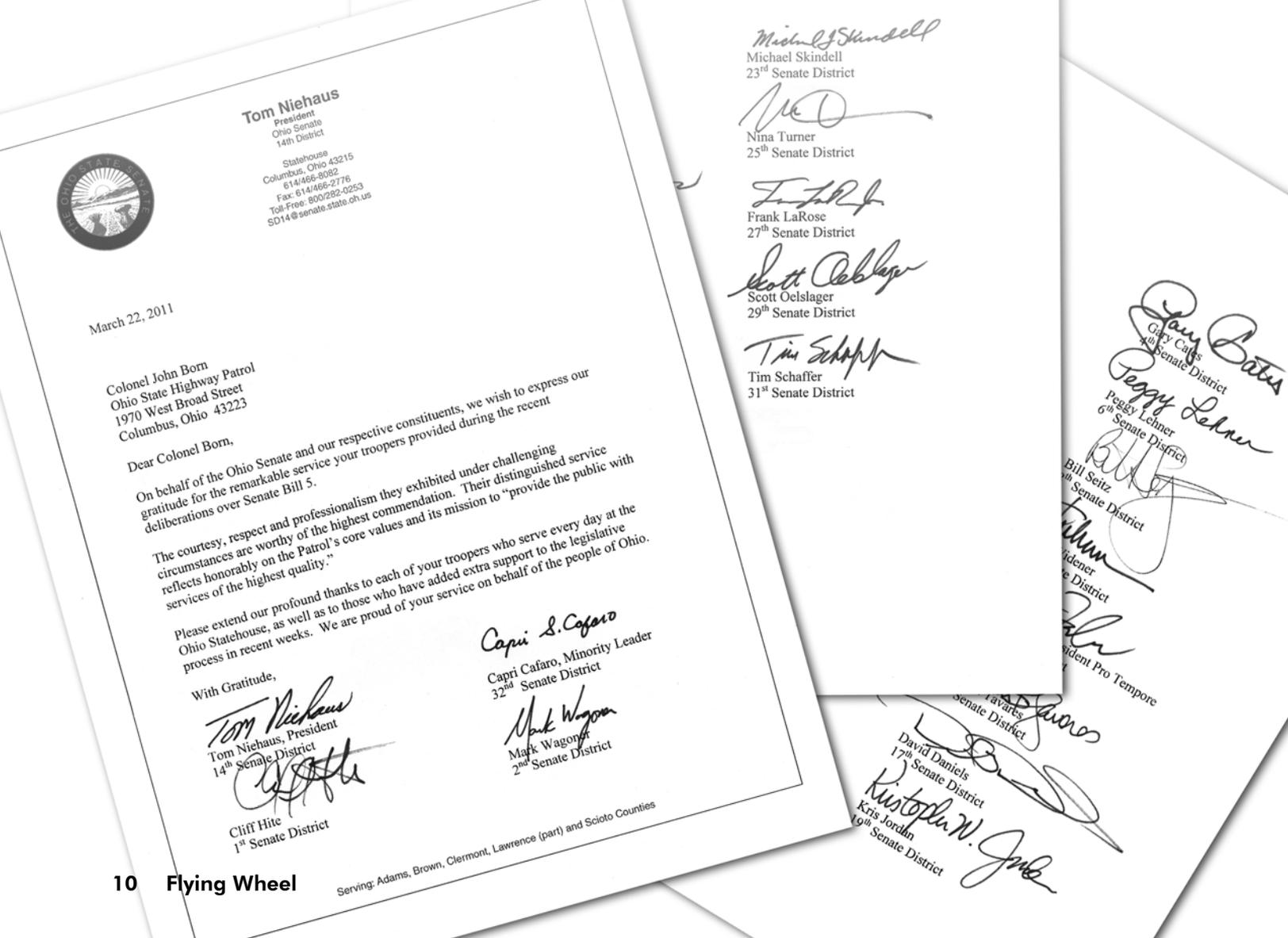
Our legislated security presence in state-owned or -leased properties took on a new significance and level of commitment after 9/11. Since shortly after the attacks, state troopers have maintained a highly-visible presence in the Ohio Statehouse, Vern Riffe Government Center and the Rhodes State Office Tower as well as the Ohio Judicial Center, which houses the Ohio Supreme Court.

The four buildings, referred to as "the campus" by our Capitol Operations Unit, represent the heart of Ohio government. While some agencies have offices in other locations in Columbus, these four buildings are, for all intents and purposes, the home of Ohio government. As such, they are often the site of protests, rallies and demonstrations concerning a wide variety of issues,

including Senate Bill 5.

With these events often comes intense media coverage which, at times, has reached across the world. The responsibility for providing security at these four buildings, which are home to approximately 6,500 employees every work day, rests on the shoulders of our Capitol Operations Unit. Their combined efforts are even more daunting when one takes into account that on any given work day, more than 30,000 people work in the downtown area contiguous to these four buildings.

In response to the efforts of our Capitol Operations Unit and numerous other troopers who assisted with security during the demonstrations related to Senate Bill 5, Colonel John Born, Superintendent, received the letter below, which is signed by every member of the Ohio Senate.



NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

In Memoriam

Ohio State Highway Patrol Memorial

Several hundred family members and friends of the Patrol gathered at the Academy on May 6, 2011, to honor our 39 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 under cloudy skies as District Troopers of the Year escorted the families of 12 of our fallen officers to their seats in the Academy courtyard while the Drum and Bugle Corps played. Intermittent sprinkles and cool temperatures contributed to the solemn mood of the day.

Colonel John Born, Patrol superintendent, opened the ceremony by pledging that the 1,500 troopers serving Ohio today will carry on the tradition and honor of those who came before them, and said of the officers killed in the line of duty, "We will honor their memories by continuing to contribute to a safer Ohio."

Later, Governor John Kasich told the audience it has been a privilege getting to know troopers during his service as governor. "They are a special group of people, and they are always on the job." He also acknowledged, "The job is never done in the Highway Patrol," and then thanked the family members of the deceased for "providing the values that inspire people to serve others."

Following the governor's comments, the Honor Guard lowered the American flag to half staff, the Saluting Battery performed a 21-gun salute, and two Patrol buglers sounded "Taps." A moment of silence was followed by a fly-over of Patrol and Columbus Police Department helicopters.

While a light rain fell, retired Lt. Colonel Shel Senek, president of the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association, read the roster of the deceased.

State and National Memorials

On May 5, 2011, at the 2011 Ohio Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony on the grounds of the Ohio Peace Officer

Training Academy in London, Tpr. Andrew C. Baldrige was honored with three other Ohio peace officers who gave their lives in the line of duty in 2010. Tpr. Baldrige, of the Bucyrus Post, was killed in a crash in the line of duty on February 4, 2010.

Members of the Patrol Honor Guard and Drum and Bugle Corps participated in the ceremony with law enforcement representatives from around the state. The Division's Aviation Unit participated in a fly-over during the ceremony and 2010 State Trooper of the Year Christina Hayes served as a flag representative.

Tpr. Baldrige's name was also added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. this year. Troopers attended the national event in memory of Tpr. Baldrige and members of the Drum & Bugle Corps performed at several venues during the week (*please see Around the State, page 18*).

OTC Scholarships

Every year the Ohio Troopers Coalition (OTC) awards four scholarships to high school seniors. The scholarships are awarded based on the student's class ranking, standardized test scores, extra-curricular activities, involvement in school government and community service work. In June, OTC awarded four Memorial Scholarships:

- Hayley Derikito, the Trooper Frank Vazquez Memorial Ohio Troopers Coalition Scholarship
- Drew Mendenhall, the Sergeant Dale Holcomb Memorial Ohio Troopers Coalition Scholarship
- Nicole Phillips, the Trooper Joshua Risner Memorial Ohio Troopers Coalition Scholarship
- Michelle Staley, the Trooper Jack P. Holland Memorial Ohio Troopers Coalition Scholarship



Pre-prom Activities Help Troopers Stress Personal Responsibility

Troopers all over the state participated in pre-prom activities this spring, taking time to educate our youngest and most vulnerable drivers about safe driving habits and making good decisions:

Athens – The Athens Post joined Prom Pledge, Impact, Inc., to present IMPACT 2011, a program for more than 6,000 high school juniors and seniors from 36 schools in 14 counties. On April 8, 2011, at Ohio University, Erica Upshaw, a nationally-known speaker, talked to the students about the dangers of recreational drug and alcohol use. Students also viewed a multi-media show that offered a sobering look at what can happen when poor choices are made involving alcohol and drugs, poor driving habits or peer pressure. Sgt. Jeremy Mendenhall coordinated the event for the Patrol. Major sponsors included the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Troopers for a Safer Ohio, Chi Omega Sorority, Geico Insurance, Osteopathic Heritage Foundations and Time-Warner Cable.

Ravenna – Ravenna personnel assisted Portage County Safe Communities at the annual “None 4 Under 21” rally on April 19, 2011, at Hiram College. More than 2,000 high school seniors from Portage County and surrounding counties attended the event to kick-off prom season in the area.

Mansfield – Troopers participated in a mock crash staged by the 4-H Youth Safety Council at the Richland County Fairgrounds on April 27, 2011, for more than 1,300 juniors and seniors from 10 area high schools.

Lisbon – Lt. Joe Dragovich narrated and Tpr. Eric Carroll participated in a mock crash for more than 900 Columbiana and Mahoning County students on April 27, 2011. The crash was hosted by the Family Recovery Center with more than a dozen law enforcement and EMS departments participating.

Wapakoneta – The Wapakoneta Post participated in three mock crashes at New Knoxville, St. Marys and Wapakoneta high schools. Troopers joined fire fighters, emergency medical personnel and local law enforcement in staging the events.

St. Clairsville – Troopers spoke at Shadyside, Union Local and Steubenville high schools before each school’s prom. Troopers talked to students about the dangers of impaired driving and also reminded drivers about the laws limiting driving during restricted hours and the number of occupants allowed in a vehicle.

Chillicothe – The Chillicothe Post participated in a county-wide mock crash and Prom Promise program in Ross County. All but two high schools in the county attended. Lt. Mike Crispin was a featured speaker. He and Alan Winters, a man who killed a friend while driving impaired and was sentenced to three years prison, spoke to the students. In addition to impaired driving, Lt. Crispin also discussed texting while driv-



Troopers participated in dozens of speech details before prom and graduation and spoke to thousands of Ohio teens, including more than 6,000 at IMPACT 2011, about safe driving habits and making good decisions.

ing and prescription pill abuse. The post also participated in a similar event in Pike County with all county high schools.

Cambridge – Tpr. Tim Cunningham visited six high schools in Noble and Guernsey counties in conjunction with their proms. Two inmates from Noble Correctional Institution were brought to the high schools to tell their stories. One inmate talked about how alcohol abuse affected his life. The other talked about how poor choices altered the course of his life.

Canton – Canton troopers visited Canton Central Catholic on May 13, 2011, as part of pre-prom activities that included a live radio broadcast (Q-92 FM) with Stark County Safe Communities. Students were given the opportunity to drive a pedal cart while wearing Fatal Vision goggles.

Ashland – Tpr. Jeremy Burgett coordinated a mock crash for about 500 students at Loudonville High School on May 6, 2011. Loudonville firefighters and police, Metro Lifeflight and Medflight also participated. The scene illustrated a one-vehicle fatal crash. Students watched first responders render aid to the injured as the coroner removed a deceased occupant from the scene. Tpr. Burgett also provided a safety speech to the students.

Norwalk – Tpr. Tim Hoffman visited eight high schools during prom season, giving a presentation about the importance of safety belt use, the dangers of texting while driving and the dangers of riding with multiple passengers. The Norwalk Post also conducted a county-wide safety belt survey prior at all eight schools. Students at the school with the highest percentage of use were awarded tickets to Summit Motorsports Park.

Granville – On April 12, 2011, Lt. Darrin Blosser and Tpr. Robert Franks participated in a mock crash at Granville High School. The crash scenario involved texting and driving. After the mock crash, students were encouraged to sign up to be a text-free driver. Those who signed the pledge were presented with a silicone thumb ring that read “TXT FREE DRIVER.”



150th Academy Class Graduates

46 New Troopers are Assigned to 20 Posts Around the State

The Ohio State Highway Patrol held a graduation ceremony for 46 cadets on April 29, 2011, at the Training Academy. The Patrol's 150th Class graduated after 29 weeks of rigorous law enforcement training.

The keynote address was made by Ohio Speaker of the House William G. Batchelder. Additional remarks were provided by Director Thomas P. Charles, Ohio Department of Public Safety; Colonel John Born, superintendent; Capt. Robert W. Markowski, Academy commandant; Judge Peter B. Abele, Fourth Appellate District, Ohio Court of Appeals; and Reverend Richard D. Ellsworth, Patrol chaplain. All addressed the graduates and presented their commissions and certificates of training.

Courses completed by the 150th class included firearms, traffic and criminal laws, self-defense, human relations and crash investigation training. Cadets also drove on the performance track at the Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy (OPOTA) in London.

Tpr. Juan R. Santiago Jr. of Lorain, Ohio, was selected class speaker and thanked the Academy and the

families of the cadets for being so supportive during their training.

Five graduates received special honors for top performance in various fields of study:

- Overall performance - Tpr. Jared L. Haslar of Canal Fulton, Ohio
- Top performance in firearms - Tpr. Ryan O. Maynard of Milford, Ohio
- Top performance in driving - Tpr. Samuel L. Davis of Amanda, Ohio, and Tpr. Gary J. Sweeney of Cortland, Ohio
- Top performance in physical training - Tpr. Evan M. Slates of Bowling Green, Ohio
- Top performance in academics - Tpr. Gary J. Sweeney of Cortland, Ohio

The graduates reported to their posts on Monday, May 2, 2011, for a field-training period. The new graduates were assigned to 20 of the Patrol's 55 posts.



Decision reached on future of Patrol dispatching structure

Colonel John Born, Superintendent, recently announced changes to the Division's dispatching structure. Excerpts from his communication to all personnel about these changes follow.

"As you are aware, dispatching is a critical and integral part of our overall operations and has gone through several transitions to date. During a recent review of the structure of Ohio State Highway Patrol dispatching, we considered a variety of variables including the 2010 dispatcher study, personnel strength, a statewide dispatcher survey by the OSTA and a Division survey of exempt dispatcher supervisors.

It is apparent that while employees are passionate about the issue and have varying opinions, everyone wanted a firm decision to be made about the future of dispatching. In making a decision, it is important to note that Operational Effectiveness, Employee Impact, and Cost Efficiency were three primary factors considered.

The current structure of Ohio State Highway Patrol dispatching is not uniform or consistent. Therefore, the following long-term solution will be implemented:



Each district will operate three dispatching posts.

Each District will operate with three Dispatching Posts. Districts Two, Three, Four and Eight will require no changes. Districts One and Seven will add one Dispatching Post while District Nine will add two Dispatching Posts. Districts Five and Six will reduce by one Dispatching Post. The CICC and Turnpike Dispatch will continue to operate separate from these changes."

Implementation of the new dispatching structure is expected to be complete before the end of 2012.

Patrol joins Guns-N-Hoses Blood Donation Campaign

American Red Cross enlists police and firefighters to help fight against summer blood shortages

It is that time of year again for baseball games, fishing trips, summer vacations and fireworks. This time of year also marks the beginning of trauma season here in Ohio – the time of year when motor vehicle crashes and traumatic injuries increase and the need for blood often exceeds the supply.

In addition, with all of the summer activities coming up, the amount of people who have time to donate blood decreases. That is why the Ohio State Highway Patrol is teaming up with the American Red Cross for the 16th Annual Guns-N-Hoses blood donor campaign which runs June 30 through July 31.

Troopers, as law enforcement officers and first responders, see first-hand what the gift of donating blood can do for those injured in traffic crashes and other emergency situations.

"Just one donation can save up to three lives and impact countless others," said Colonel John Born, Patrol superintendent. "I am encouraging the entire Patrol family to donate blood this trauma season, and for them in turn to encourage their friends, family and

communities to join us in helping to save lives."

Guns-N-Hoses began in 1996 as a friendly competition between police officers and fire fighters to see who could bring in the most blood donations. Those who donate during the campaign can make their donation a vote for either fire fighters or police officers. In the end, the patients who benefit from the available blood products are the real winners.

Counties participating in this year's campaign include: Athens, Champaign, Coshocton, Crawford, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Guernsey, Hardin, Harrison, Highland, Hocking, Knox, Licking, Logan, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Richland, Ross, Tuscarawas, Union and Vinton.

The Patrol family statewide is encouraged to donate blood this summer, even if their county is not participating in the Guns-N-Hoses campaign. 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 please call 1-800-RED-CROSS visit www.redcrossblood.org or contact your local Red Cross Chapter.

About the American Red Cross

The Central Ohio Blood Services Region serves 27 counties and needs to collect about 650 pints of blood each day to meet patient need in 41 hospitals. In addition to providing blood to the community, the American Red Cross also provides relief to victims of disaster, trains millions in lifesaving skills, serves as a communication link between U.S. military members and their families and assists victims of international disasters or conflicts.

University of Cincinnati Bearcats receive Partners for Safety Award

The University of Cincinnati Bearcats received the Patrol's 2010 Partners for Safety Award during the University of Cincinnati Bearcats men's basketball game versus Connecticut on February 27, 2011. Presenting the Award at Fifth Third Arena to Bearcats Head Football Coach Butch Jones was Colonel John Born, Patrol superintendent, Capt. Robert Johnson, Wilmington District commander and Lt. Michael Sanders, Lebanon Post commander.

The Partners for Safety Award recognizes local level partnerships that help in the development of state and local programs to increase the overall safety on Ohio roadways. The Patrol established the award in 2005 to recognize private sector organizations that take an active role in promoting traffic safety initiatives.

During the past two football seasons, the Lebanon Post and the Bearcats have partnered to promote traffic safety to University of Cincinnati students and fans, and within the Cincinnati community in general.

As part of this partnership, a "Fans don't let fans drive drunk," commercial and poster were created with Coach Jones, Lebanon Post personnel and officers from the University of Cincinnati Police and Cincinnati Police Department. The commercial was aired on TV with funds from the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Traffic Safety Office and aired inside the University of Cincinnati stadium on game days. The



Lt. Mike Sanders, Lebanon Post, Capt. Robert Johnson, Wilmington District, University of Cincinnati head football Coach Butch Jones and Colonel John Born.

posters were displayed around the stadium and campus.

In addition, the Patrol also created a wallet-sized card with OVI stats and contact information for law enforcement on one side and contact information for taxi cab companies servicing the Cincinnati metro area on the other side. The cards were distributed during each home game by troopers and local law enforcement.

The Patrol's Partners for Safety program involves developing partnerships at the local level with businesses, community groups, health and safety organizations, law enforcement agencies and schools. Previous Award recipients include Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc. (2005), Pizza Hut (2006), the American Motorcyclist Association (2007), AK Steel (2008) and the Cincinnati Bengals (2009).

Auxiliary Class graduates

Eighteen new Auxiliary officers were commissioned on May 14, 2011, at a graduation ceremony at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy.

The first Auxiliary class since 2009 spent eight days in residence at the Academy undergoing law enforcement training, which included firearms familiarization, traffic and criminal laws, self-defense, cultural sensitivity and assisting in crash investigations.

The ceremony was presided over by Major John Bistor. Lt. Colonel Daniel Kolcum, Auxiliary Colonel Brent Rawlins, Judge Joseph T. Clark, Bishop Eddie L. Perry, Patrol Chaplain, and Donald C. MacDonald Jr., Auxiliary Class Speaker, all addressed the graduates.



Auxiliary majors from around the state were in attendance as the new graduates were presented their commissions. Unarmed Auxiliary officers assist troopers at crash scenes and traffic stops, traffic control, disaster relief and special detail support.



Public safety partners, motoring public appreciative of Patrol assistance

5/10/11

Dear Governor Kasich: I wanted to thank you for allowing Ohio State Patrol's SRT team and Riot Field Force to assist us during a major event here in our city May 6 and 7, 2011. This event has been violent and riotous the past two years. This year's event was much calmer and in more control from a Law Enforcement perspective. It is due in great part to the State Patrol's assistance. Specifically, Lt. Skinner, Capt. Dean, Lt. Rosta and Staff Lt. Allwine were great leaders and worked diligently to help us put our plan together. I cannot thank you enough for allowing them to help us. — Chief Thomas D. Pyle, City of Athens Police Department

5/9/11: I would like to give high praise to one of your troopers who was an angel of mercy recently. We were on I-75 N just south of exit 161 on May 7 when we had a flat tire and were forced to the shoulder to await AAA. One of your men, Craig, stopped shortly after we did and set out flares so the repair truck would have an easier job finding us. It took quite a while for the truck to arrive, and Craig returned to check on us just as it arrived. To add to our distress, as the wrecker pulled away, after Craig had left and the tire was changed, I discovered that my battery was dead. You can imagine our distress at this point. Calling AAA again, we were told that they did not authorize jump-starts on the freeway. We were completely overwhelmed at this point, trying to decide what in world we could do. Enter Craig — a third time — who, after hearing our dilemma, jump started our car and sent us on our way. This event made it obvious that some people's negative opinion of law enforcement is indeed an ignorant and erroneous one. They have not met Craig! — D.F.

5/2/11: My tire blew out on 71 N this morning just north of Stringtown Road. I called AAA and they said it would be at least 45 minutes. I went to my trunk

to get to the spare and it was rather scary as it was windy and rush hour, with cars speeding past. Two minutes later, your officer pulls up behind me, changes my tire and I was off, and only eight minutes late to work. He was so kind and it was a relief for me to not have to wait on the side of the road. I appreciate it so much and I hope you can let the officer know how much it means that they are willing to help in this manner. — S.D.

4/12/11

Dear Lt. Zwyer: Your participation over recent months in both the investigation and leadership of the Tiffany Brown and Richard and Gladis Russell murder investigations was, in my opinion, critical to the successful prosecution of Samuel Littleton II and the recovery of the bodies of Dick and Gladis. Perhaps more important, your engagement with the families during the difficult times of conveying information none wished to hear brought credibility to and confidence in the criminal justice system. I appreciate your contributions to our efforts more than words can express and have no doubt that we would not have been as successful without your participation. Thanks for your assistance. — Chief Brad K. Kunze, City of Bellefontaine Police Department

4/6/11: I have been meaning to write to bring your attention to a very pleasant experience with the DX in Bowling Green. I arrived with my daughter 20 minutes in advance of her appointment to take a driving test. She was nervous and wanted to take a test run before going into the exam. I parked and as we started to switch driving positions I noticed that the tire was leaking fast and had quickly gone flat in the parking lot. We had another 15 minutes before our appointment, so we went into the office and explained the problem to DX Mark Grove, asking if we could rent a car or reschedule after AAA arrived. There were no other customers in the office and one other officer minding the desk, so

he said, "Let's take a look." He not only helped us change the tire, but made sure my daughter was ready to take the test. I really wanted to make sure someone knows we both really appreciated his kindness for helping us change a tire on a chilly, damp day, and also for keeping us in good humor about the situation. Mark is a pleasure. — M.S.

4/2/11: After several recent drug-related arrests in the area, I wanted to commend the men and women of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. This is serious problem in this area as I'm sure it is elsewhere. The troubling fact is that this area was at one time a relatively peaceful spot. As a former law enforcement officer, I've seen my share of lives wasted and ruined due to drug use. Blame the economy or whatever, the reality of it is that drug abuse is an epidemic. I personally want to thank each and every one of the men and women at the Jackson Post for their continued, relentless pursuit of drug offenders. For every pill you take off our streets and highways, that could be a life saved. — Chief Michael Keeton (retired), Oak Hill Police Department

3/27/11: My husband and I had car trouble on I71N March 20. We wanted to thank Officer Steele for all of his care and assistance. He took his time to inform us and assure our safety while we waited for a tow. Compliments to Mr. Steele for his commitment to service. God Bless him and all who help us daily. — N.F.

3/22/11: On, March 20, my wife and I, 72 and 77 years old, were driving home to Dayton from Columbus when a rear tire blew and forced us to stop about a half mile east of exit 79, west-bound on I70. Being a little scared, we did not know any better than to call 911 who, thankfully, rerouted us to the Highway Patrol. They advised they have a patrolman stop by to help us. As promised, a young officer by the name of Troy Gray stopped and offered his help. It was a pleasure meeting — *Continued on next page.*

Certificates of Recognition



Chris A. Coverstone

Sgt. Chris A. Coverstone, Southwest Criminal Patrol Unit, received a Certificate of Recognition for saving the life of a motorist who suffered a heart attack.

On April 22, 2011, Sgt. Coverstone responded to a report of a vehicle parked in a traffic lane on Interstate 75 in Miami County. When he arrived on the scene, he found a man lying in the grass median and a bystander performing CPR.

Sgt. Coverstone called for emergency medical services, and then retrieved the automated

external defibrillator (AED) from his patrol car. The bystander identified himself as Edward Smith and said he was an off-duty firefighter. Sgt. Coverstone and Mr. Smith worked together to provide emergency aid to the man until paramedics arrived on the scene.

The victim was transported to Upper Valley Medical Center where doctors reported he had suffered a severe heart attack and said he would have died without the aid provided by Sgt. Coverstone and Mr. Smith.

Sgt. William P. Elschlager, Delaware, received a Certificate of Recognition for assisting with the apprehension of an armed suspect.

On March 30, 2011, Sgt. Elschlager was off-duty in his personal vehicle when a man ran in front of his car on State Route 3 in Delaware County. Sgt. Elschlager slammed on his breaks and skidded to a stop. He then observed a Sunbury police officer pursuing the man.

The officer had his weapon drawn and pointed at the suspect. The suspect stopped and faced the officer with his arms down to his sides.

Sgt. Elschlager exited his vehicle and informed the officer that he was an off-duty trooper. The officer stated that the subject was armed, and as he began to move closer, the suspect bladed his body and raised his fists in a fighting stance.

Sgt. Elschlager, realizing he was at least 40 yards from cover, asked the officer to cover him as he approached the suspect. He engaged and subdued the suspect, who was trying to reach around his body. After the Sunbury officer handcuffed the suspect, a loaded handgun was found in the man's right rear pocket.



William P. Elschlager



Christopher L. Ellison



Steven R. Ilo

Tpr. Christopher L. Ellison and **Tpr. Steven R. Ilo**, Dayton, received Certificates of Recognition for assisting with the apprehension of two armed robbery suspects. On February 23, 2011, Tpr. Ellison and Tpr. Ilo were off-duty in Columbus at an intersection adjacent to a bank. Both officers observed a silver Honda Accord stop in a traffic lane near the bank.

They saw a passenger exit the car and approach a vehicle at the bank's drive-through ATM. The man displayed a handgun and pointed it at the driver of vehicle at the ATM, demanding money.

The Accord then pulled onto an access road nearby and picked up the passenger just east of the bank. Troopers Ellison and Ilo followed the Accord and called Columbus Police. A short time later, Columbus officers stopped the Honda and took both occupants into custody without incident.

– *Continued from previous page.*

and talking to this officer who was really helpful. He performed most of the hard work because he realized that we, or I should say I, was not strong enough to do the hard work involved in changing the damaged tire and replacing it with the spare. My wife and I would like to say that it is gratifying to us to know that your Patrol is manned by a person like Officer Gray. – R.K.

11/30/10: It is my distinct pleasure to offer this Letter of Commendation to Officer Alan Dunbar for his exceptional effort provided while assisting me in the attempted rescue of

an entrapped victim in a motor vehicle accident at mile marker 223 on Interstate 71 South. Officer Dunbar twice entered the cab of the truck at his own peril to assist me with attempts to re-position the victim so as to sustain his life. He displayed great physical effort in the performance of this task. Officer Dunbar's selfless actions are in best keeping with the purposes and traditions of the emergency services of the State of Ohio. He is to be commended for his dedication and professionalism in the performance of his duties. – Chief James Baird, City of Brunswick Division of Fire

Drum and Bugle Corps

The Drum and Bugle Corps represented the Patrol at several functions during the 2011 National Police Memorial Week in Washington, D.C.

On May 12, the band performed at the arrival ceremony of the inaugural Blue Valor Run from Ground Zero in New York City. More than 120 police officers from across the country participated in the one-day motorcycle ride honoring the 72 officers who lost their lives during 9/11 and all officers who have died in the line of duty.

The Corps also performed in honor of Tpr. Andrew C. Baldrige at the Police and Fire Unity Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. They then played a concert on the Memorial before the Annual Candlelight Vigil.

Members of the Drum and Bugle Corps attended the Candlelight Vigil and placed cards on the wall near the names of the Patrol officers honored there.



Above: The Drum and Bugle Corps played at the arrival of the inaugural Blue Valor Run from Ground Zero in New York City to Washington, D.C.



Right: Troopers visited Tpr. Andrew C. Baldrige's name, which was added to the wall at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

Troopers Receive National, Local Recognition

Northwest Regional Criminal Patrol: Tpr. Stacey L. Arnold was honored by the National Criminal Enforcement Association during its Annual Awards Breakfast in Spartanburg, South Carolina, on February 25, 2011.

Tpr. Arnold, a K-9 handler, was presented with the March 2010 Seizure of the Month Award for the interdiction of five pounds of heroin on the Ohio Turnpike. She also was presented with the prestigious "Director's Award" for 2010 and a posthumous award in honor of her longtime partner, K-9 Ringo. The Association's K-9 Legacy Award was bestowed upon Ringo for his lifetime achievements in the area of drug interdiction.

Northwest Regional Criminal Patrol: In February, Tpr. David A. Norman, a K-9 handler, was recognized by METRICH (Metro-Richland County Enforcement Unit) for his assistance in two drug interdictions which resulted in the seizure of approximately 3 kilograms of cocaine, 1 ounce of crack cocaine and 20 pounds of marijuana. His METRICH award stated, "without the cooperation of Trooper Norman and the Ohio State Highway Patrol this investigation would not have had the impact that it did in our communities."

Mansfield: Tpr. James K. Speicher, was honored by the Richland County Red Cross on May 19, 2011, with Deputy Brent Broom, Richland County Sheriff's Office, as recipients of the Real Hero Award. The award is presented to people in the community who demonstrate acts of courage and humanitarian service in Richland County. Tpr. Speicher and Deputy Broom were recognized for their rescue efforts at a crash scene.



Captain David L. Gillespie and Tpr. Stacey L. Arnold with her NCEA award.



David A. Norman



James K. Speicher

Dayton Post

On April 3, 2011, Tpr. Jason Hutchison was awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Operation Iraqi Freedom during a ceremony at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Fairborn, Ohio.

Tpr. Hutchison served as platoon sergeant for the U.S. Army's 342nd Military Police Company, 607th Military Police Battalion in Iraq from October 25, 2008, to September 30, 2009.

Tpr. Hutchison's award cited him for, "Exceptionally meritorious service in a combat zone with exposure to risk of hostile action during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His outstanding duty performance during combat operations in Iraq contributed to the overwhelming success of the command's mission. His actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, The Multi-National Corps-Iraq, and the United States Army."

Tpr. Hutchison has a lengthy military service record hav-



Member of the Patrol family were on hand to support Tpr. Jason Hutchison, who was awarded the Bronze Star on April 3, 2011, for his service in Iraq with U.S. Army's 342nd Military Police Company, 607th Military Police Battalion.

ing served eight years active duty as a United States Marine, then with the United States Air Force Reserve and the United States Army Reserve. Tpr. Hutchison returned to service with the United States Air Force Reserve after his tour of duty with the Army in Iraq.



Norwalk Post

On April 26, 2011, Tpr. Tim Hoffman and Teddy Trooper (Tim's wife, Michelle) visited the pre-school classes at Shupe Elementary School in Amherst. The kids got to check out the inside of the patrol car and hang out with Teddy Trooper. Each student was given a "Bears Against Drugs" coloring book and crayons. In all, four classes and more than 100 pre-school children participated.

Jackson Post

On March 4, 2011, Tpr. Michael McManis and Jackson District Secretary Susan Balzer (Teddy Trooper), visited Westview Elementary School in Jackson. They helped the students celebrate national "Read Across America" week. Tpr. McManis explained the importance of reading and how it is necessary, not only in day-to-day life, but specifically in the field of law enforcement. After explaining the importance of reading, Tpr. McManis read to the students. More than 200 students took part in the program.



Springfield Post



The "Run Across America" campaign launched by the "LIVE! with Regis and Kelly" show and ultra-marathon runner Dean Karnazes, made its way through Clark County on April 21, 2011. The campaign is raising funds and awareness in the fight against childhood obesity in America. More than 300 runners participated in the 5K run including Julie Sebastian, wife of Tpr. Toby Sebastian. The run concluded at Reid Middle School where Julie is a 5th grade teacher. Her students ran the last mile with her to the finish line.

Ohio's first lady, Karen Kasich also participated in the event. After a 3,000 mile journey, Karnazes will cross the official finish line on air at the set of "LIVE! with Regis and Kelly."

Sgt. Yvonne Thorne and Lt. Matt Cleaveland are pictured above with Julie Sebastian and her students.

Hamilton Post



On March 26, 2011, members of the Hamilton Post participated in the 5th annual "Guns N' Hoses" Basketball Tournament hosted by the Springdale Police Department.

The tournament helps to raise money for the Police Unity Tour and sponsorship of the bikers who make a 300-mile ride from New Jersey to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Front row: Retired Tpr. Rick Blyberg, Tpr. Christina Hayes, Sgt. Paul Lezotte (Team Captain) and Tpr. Will Mahone.

Back row: Sgt. Pete Combs, Lt. Wayne Price, Lt. Brian Welling (Georgetown Post), Tpr. Brian Bost and Tpr. Jeff Crook.



Expressing sympathy



Reginald Willis

Division mourns Chardon Trooper Reginald Willis

Tpr. Reginald Willis, 51, passed away May 14, 2011, at University Hospital in Cleveland.

Tpr. Willis was assigned to the Lebanon Post. His peers voted him Post Trooper of the Year three times, in 1994, 2005 and 2008.

A member of the 112th Academy Class, Tpr. Willis was assigned to Walbridge after he earned his commission in March 1983. In October 1990, he transferred to Chardon, and then in 1992, he transferred to Cleveland Operations

where he served more than five years and was Post Trooper of the Year for 1997.

He transferred to Medina in 1998 and returned to Chardon in July 1999. In his career, he earned the Health and Physical Fitness and Safe Driving awards.

Tpr. Willis is survived by his wife, Robbie, and children: Rae'Lynn, Regime and Reginald, as well as six siblings and a host of family and friends.



Robert Johnson Jr.

Captain Robert Johnson, Wilmington District commander, retired March 11, 2011, after 33 years of service. He is a member of the 103rd Academy Class.



Brian D. Reigle

Lieutenant Brian D. Reigle, Licensing and Commercial Standards, retired May 20, 2011, after 31 years of service. He is a member of the 108th Academy Class.



Robert W. Markowski

Captain Robert W. Markowski, Training Academy commandant, retired May 20, 2011, after 30 years of service. He is a member of the 110th Academy Class.



Michael J. Wiederman

Lieutenant Michael J. Wiederman, Swanton Post commander, retired April 8, 2011, after 27 years of service. He is a member of the 114th Academy Class.



James M. Hamilton

Staff Lieutenant James M. Hamilton, LEADS commander, retired May 20, 2011, after 31 years of service. He is a member of the 108th Academy Class.



Stephen P. Babich

Sergeant Stephen P. Babich, Swanton Post, retired April 16, 2011, after 28 years of service. He is a member of the 112th Academy Class.



Susan M. Rance-Locke

Staff Lieutenant Susan M. Rance-Locke, Employee Relations Unit commander, retired May 5, 2011, after 29 years of service. She is a member of the 112th Academy Class.



Mark A. Hensley

Sergeant Mark A. Hensley, Columbus District LCS Unit, retired June 3, 2011, after 29 years of service. He is a member of the 113th Academy Class.



Mark D. Groves

Lieutenant Mark D. Groves, Aviation Unit, retired March 25, 2011, after 25 years of service. He is a member of the 115th Academy Class.



Kelly A. Worstall

Sergeant Kelly A. Worstall, Cambridge District LCS Unit, retired April 1, 2011, after 30 years of service. He is a member of the 110th Academy Class.



Douglas S. McKinney

Lieutenant Douglas S. McKinney, Cincinnati Operations commander, retired May 20, 2011, after 30 years of service. He is a member of the 110th Academy Class.



Douglas W. Dodson

Trooper Douglas W. Dodson, Aviation Unit, retired April 22, 2011, after 21 years of service. He is a member of the 120th Academy Class.



Tracy S. Keller

Trooper Tracy S. Keller, Cincinnati Operations, retired June 17, 2011, after 29 years of service. She is a member of the 113th Academy Class.



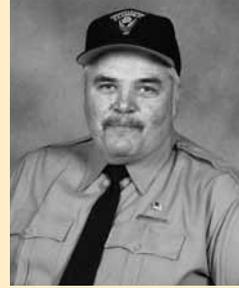
Rhoda C. Knauff

Dispatcher Rhoda C. Knauff, Batavia Dispatch Center, retired April 15, 2011, after 20 years of service.



Terry L. McElroy

Trooper Terry L. McElroy, Lisbon Post, retired May 7, 2011, after 28 years of service. He is a member of the 112th Academy Class.



William A. Smiley

Driver License Examiner 1 William A. Smiley, Warren District, retired May 31, 2011, after 30 years of service.



Timothy M. Callen

Electronic Technician 3 Timothy M. Callen, Warren DHQ, retired January 7, 2011, after 28 years of service.



Catherine A. Dennis

Accountant/Examiner 3 Catherine A. Dennis, Fiscal Services, retired May 31, 2011, after 25 years of service.



William D. Culp

Electronic Technician 3 William D. Culp, Columbus DHQ, retired April 21, 2011, after 19 years of service.



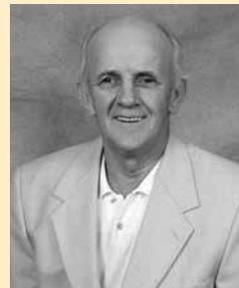
Shirley A. Sprague

Secretary Shirley A. Sprague, Berea DHQ, retired March 31, 2011, after 25 years of service.



Bela R. Kastely

Motor Vehicle Inspector Bela R. Kastely, Jackson DHQ, retired April 22, 2011, after 13 years of service.



Roger C. Workman

Maintenance Repair Worker 2 Roger C. Workman, Xenia Post, retired March 31, 2011, after 25 years of service.



Dorothy A. Bixler

Dispatcher Dorothy A. Bixler, Bowling Green Dispatch Center, retired April 29, 2011, after 39 years of service.

Dispatcher & C.T. Reunion

The annual reunion will be August 8, 2011, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Alum Creek Below the Dam Shelter #2, 5905 Lewis Center Road in Lewis Center. Please bring a covered dish or dessert. A \$7.00 fee will be charged to cover everything else. We are pleased to include former dispatchers who have accepted other positions within the division. Spouses and guests also are invited. Please RSVP by August 1, 2011, to Ruth Ann Emerick, 440-839-2178, or Norma Hughes, 740-894-3053.

Editor's note: We are very grateful to Pastor Kelly McInerney for contributing this Chaplain's Comments column while Reverend Richard Ellsworth and his wife enjoy a much-deserved vacation.

During the month of May, our nation honored thousands of fallen law enforcement officers, including Tpr. Andrew C. Baldrige and 315 other new names, in special ceremonies across America. Here in District Eight, a Warren County Sheriff's Deputy was laid to rest May 14, 2011, after being struck by a fleeing vehicle. Just a few months ago, our Division honored Tpr. Tim Hall, and his wife Molly, who died tragically and unexpectedly in a home accident. On January 1, 2011, a Clark County Deputy was ambushed and fatally shot near Springfield. That's just in southwest Ohio. We also are now mourning Tpr. Reginald Willis of the Chardon Post, who passed away on May 14, 2011.

When you consider all of Ohio, and those officers who were not killed, but wounded in shootings, other assaults and crashes, the numbers get pretty high. While every law enforcement professional understands the risks and implications of their profession, the numbers across the country this last year seem to point to an uptick in incidents concerning the deaths and injuries of officers.

I believe the Ohio State Highway Patrol does one of the best jobs in the nation in preparing our personnel

with the training, equipment and tools needed for officer safety. Unfortunately, as you have seen during your careers, not every crash can be stopped, and not every confrontation with the criminal element goes the way it should. You, who serve our state through this Division, and especially you troopers who are on the front lines of highway safety, deserve our respect and thanks for what you do each and every day.

While we are saddened every time we hear the news of a fallen officer or a fatal crash, there is something good that can come from the bad. The Apostle James reminds us in his epistle that our life is "even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." (James 4:14) This verse is a thoughtful reminder that life, even at its best, is brief. Like the steam from a coffee pot, or the morning mist rising off a summer lake, our life just appears for a little time, like a vapor, and then it's gone.

I have found in over 20 years of ministry that sometimes those who deal with death on a regular basis can become calloused to it. Death becomes part of the routine, and loses its effect. As a chaplain, I challenge you to not let that happen, but rather to learn from death, and to celebrate the gift of life. Because none of us are promised tomorrow, we need to make every day of life count!

Let your loved ones know they are loved every day. Kiss your spouse one more time before you leave. Hug your kids a little tighter before you walk out



the door. Call your momma! And ask her to keep praying for you. Make sure the people you appreciate know their value to you every opportunity you get.

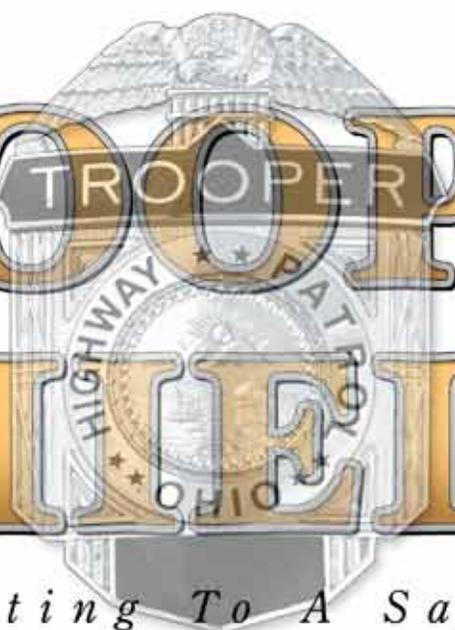
Strive to do your best every day in your attempts to contribute to a safer Ohio. Your efforts really could make the difference in someone's life. And finally, rest assured that if the shadow of death crosses over your circle of loved ones, your Ohio State Highway Patrol family will be there to support, help and encourage you in any way we can. Death is certainly something we cannot avoid – but we can be prepared, and we can live our "vapor" in a way that brings honor to our Division, our family, and our God.

Pastor Kelly McInerney
Chaplain

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