

FLYING

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WHEEL

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**2011 State Trooper of the Year
Jermaine Thaxton**



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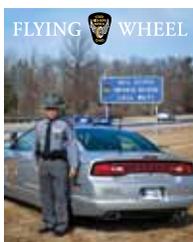
Ohio State Highway Patrol

Troopers from the Findlay Post seized a .380 and a 9mm, box illegal Oxycodone Hydrochloride prescription pills following a County on February 1. More info at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov



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On the Cover



2011 State Trooper of the Year Jermaine Thaxton of the Granville Post with one of the highway signs advertising Ohio's new multi-purpose number for the public to reach the Patrol regarding reporting drug activity, OVIs and other highway safety matters.

John R. Kasich

Governor, State of Ohio

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Colonel John Born

Superintendent, Ohio State Highway Patrol

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

Isn't it a nice thing to be noticed for your accomplishments? Don't you want others to recognize your outstanding performance? If someone came up to you and asked you how you're so successful and then asked you to help them elevate their work, wouldn't that make you feel proud?

It's okay to say yes to those questions.

The affirmative answer to those questions is exactly what has happened for the Ohio State Highway Patrol because of the organizational accomplishments you produced in 2011. From fatality reduction, to impaired driver enforcement, to drug interdiction, to criminal investigations, your achievements are being noticed.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol, because of your work, has emerged again as a leader on the national and international law enforcement map.

Recently, a DEA director stood in my office and handed a badge to an Ohio trooper and swore him in as a DEA agent. That has never happened before, and could not have happened without the criminal patrol work throughout Ohio last year. It is a clear indicator we are critical to DEA measures against drug trafficking in the United States.

There are state troopers now permanently assigned to FBI task forces contributing on drug cases and homeland security countermeasures. Several state troopers across Ohio are now integral components in local task forces combating drugs, felony criminals, auto theft and dangerous incidents that threaten the very safety of local communities.

We are again looked to for leadership within the region as exemplified through coordination of the 6-State meeting late last year (*see related 6-State Meeting article, page 10*). As an offshoot of that meeting, we are consulting West Virginia State Police officials in starting up their own new Criminal Patrol Unit. Why are we consulting? They see us as leaders in this critical area of law enforcement. That's not us saying it—that's the West Virginia State Police saying it.

Innovation and technology allowed us to become a recognized leader in increasing operational efficiency (*see related TEV article, page 6*). Other agencies throughout the United States and Canada now want to know how—with an increased emphasis on criminal patrol and continued expectation of reducing the traffic fatalities in Ohio, all the while, with a reduced force—we achieved a statewide efficiency/accountability improvement of 23 percent for the fourth quarter of the year.

The enhanced presence of our SRT and Mobile Field Force, including critical incident response techniques, has led other agencies wanting to train with, and learn from, our officers. This has led to a leadership training role at a

federally-supported critical incident training facility called Calamityville near Dayton.

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) continue to analyze and implement many of our traffic safety techniques and are now taking a close examination of our criminal patrol operations. Like the OPP several years ago, our traffic safety successes are leading to international recognition. No more clearly is this seen than coming up later this spring, the Ecuador Transit Police will be spending several days with our agency as they prepare to begin a traffic safety division modeled from our agency.

Earlier this year, I attended a meeting at the White House with the U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Homeland Security Director, FBI, National Security Advisor to the President and superintendents from five state law enforcement agencies. The focus for the meeting dealt with the nexus between drug trafficking and homeland security. We were there due to our tremendous organizational successes in these areas during 2011, and it is clear from attending the meeting that we are ahead of other states on these key operational issues.

Tie that in to Governor Kasich's recent "War on Drug Trafficking" announcement and our leading role in that effort (*see related "War on Drug Trafficking" article, page 4*). Due in large part to the incredible criminal patrol accomplishments our organization achieved in 2011, the Ohio State Highway Patrol is poised to play a significant role in this statewide effort. Senior advisors recommended #677 as the new multi-purpose number for the public to reach the Patrol regarding reporting drug activity, OVIs and other highway safety matters. The #677 number has replaced 1-877-7-PATROL as the statewide number for the public to contact the Patrol.

This issue includes coverage of our annual leadership award winners from 2011. These people are representative of leadership examples throughout the organization that moved us forward last year. Each of you has that same opportunity to lead us toward the new challenges and expectations of our agency in 2012 and beyond.

It is safe to say the nation and the world are watching you—seize upon this incredible opportunity to further establish yourself and the Ohio State Highway Patrol as a preeminent global law enforcement agency.



Colonel John Born
Superintendent

Governor Kasich Declares “War on Drug Trafficking” in Ohio

Patrol unveils #677 number and highway signs for public reporting of drug activity

Governor John Kasich made a significant public policy announcement during his commencement address to the 151st Academy Class on February 24, 2012, as he declared a war on drug trafficking in Ohio.

Due in large part to the incredible criminal patrol accomplishments achieved in 2011, which included more than \$69 million worth of seized contraband, Governor Kasich is looking to play a significant role in this statewide effort.

An important public participation portion of the effort is a new statewide toll-free phone number in which the public will be able to report drug activity and drug couriers to the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Senior advisors recommended #677 as the new multi-purpose number for the public to reach the Patrol regarding reporting drug activity, impaired drivers and other highway safety matters. The #677 number is replacing 1-877-7-PATROL as the statewide number for the public to contact the Patrol. This new number geo-locates for calls via the same method as 1-877-7-PATROL.

In conjunction with #677, Governor Kasich authorized new signs to be posted at all interstate entry points into Ohio which will promote the #677 number as a way to report drug activity. The blue 1-877-7-PATROL signs were changed to reflect the #677 number, and carry a drug and OVI message. New #677 license plates for marked cruisers will also be utilized to further promote the number.

Hidden compartment legislation has been introduced at the Ohio General Assembly to allow law enforcement to confiscate vehicles and charge offenders who modify vehicles to conceal drugs and contraband.

The Office of Strategic Services developed a dispatcher training curriculum to include guidelines for separating calls for impaired drivers and those reporting drug activity. A key operational feature covered in the training is the establishment of a mechanism for dispatchers taking #677 calls to send any drug-related call information to the Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU), even if a local trooper is dispatched or the call is transferred to another agency’s jurisdiction.

Troopers are also reminded to utilize the CIU through the new direct contact system to request and receive intelligence reports on suspected criminals or criminal activity. The new #677 number, and associated highway signs, are part of Ohio’s *Plan to Combat Drug Traffickers*.

The plan includes more networking and collaboration



Governor John Kasich discussed the Patrol’s role in combating drug trafficking in Ohio during a media event at the Patrol Academy on February 24, 2012.

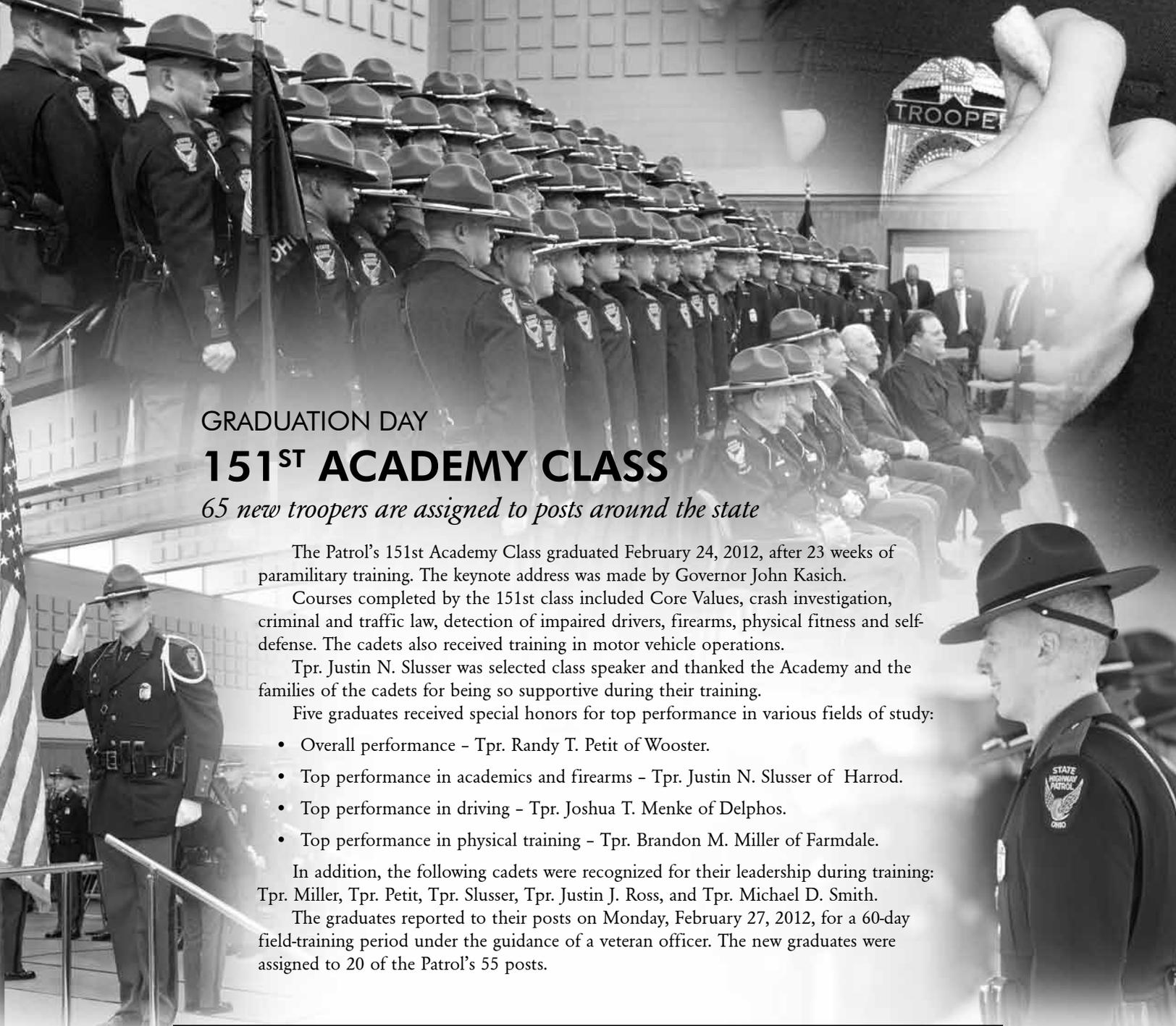
with federal, state and local agencies. The Ohio State Highway Patrol held a two-day conference in November 2011 with the leaders of Ohio’s five neighboring states to develop specific collaborative efforts (*please see related article, page 10*).

This meeting resulted in better intelligence sharing and joint operations at Ohio’s borders. The goal is to create a deterrence curtain in the heartland and around Ohio. Patrol managers plan to increase and expand cooperative ride-along efforts similar to those successfully deployed during 2011 with the Akron Police Department in which troopers rode with Akron officers and Akron officers rode with troopers. There will also be an expansion of “Shield” details and full-time assignments of Ohio troopers to DEA task forces.

The Patrol’s Regional Training Unit will expand its specialized training throughout Ohio with an emphasis on drug courier trends and techniques, cargo and commercial trucking regulation, and search and seizure law. Much of this training will be available to all Ohio law enforcement agencies and officers.

The Patrol’s legislative liaison will engage Ohio cabinet appointees, members of the Ohio General Assembly, prosecutors, judges and treatment agencies to garner further support of efforts to combat drug activity in Ohio. As part of this, Criminal Patrol and Crime Lab personnel are conducting demonstrations of drug-related issues for key stakeholder groups.

The recent consolidation of intelligence resources contained within the state’s Fusion Center, the Patrol Critical
– *Continued on next page.*



GRADUATION DAY

151ST ACADEMY CLASS

65 new troopers are assigned to posts around the state

The Patrol's 151st Academy Class graduated February 24, 2012, after 23 weeks of paramilitary training. The keynote address was made by Governor John Kasich.

Courses completed by the 151st class included Core Values, crash investigation, criminal and traffic law, detection of impaired drivers, firearms, physical fitness and self-defense. The cadets also received training in motor vehicle operations.

Tpr. Justin N. Slusser 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. Randy T. Petit of Wooster.
- Top performance in academics and firearms - Tpr. Justin N. Slusser of Harrod.
- Top performance in driving - Tpr. Joshua T. Menke of Delphos.
- Top performance in physical training - Tpr. Brandon M. Miller of Farmdale.

In addition, the following cadets were recognized for their leadership during training: Tpr. Miller, Tpr. Petit, Tpr. Slusser, Tpr. Justin J. Ross, and Tpr. Michael D. Smith.

The graduates reported to their posts on Monday, February 27, 2012, for a 60-day field-training period under the guidance of a veteran officer. The new graduates were assigned to 20 of the Patrol's 55 posts.

– Continued from previous page.

Information and Communication Center and the Patrol's Criminal Intelligence Unit is another key component to the overall state strategy to combat drug activity. Those assets, combined with public support through use of the #677 number and road sign marketing will provide integral connections among the public, road officers and intelligence personnel at the state and national levels.

The Patrol is also committing additional personnel resources by creating additional Criminal Patrol lieutenant positions, and new investments in more drug-detecting canines and other criminal patrol assets.

Governor Kasich's told the 65 new troopers of the 151st Academy Class they are the newest members of the front-line in the "War

on Drug Trafficking" in Ohio. His commitment to the Patrol in regards to this critical issue provides the incredible opportunity for the organization to further establish itself as a preminent law enforcement agency in terms of highway safety and criminal patrol.



Criminal Patrol video

Under the Ohio State Highway Patrol's mantra, "Trooper Shield," the Patrol has put an added emphasis on interdicting the criminal element from Ohio's roadways. A video shot by the Patrol Auxiliary to explain this effort can be viewed on the Patrol's You Tube Channel at www.youtube.com/oshp or by scanning this QR code with your smart phone.

Time Efficiency Value (TEV) Program

Program to measure, balance public safety productivity shows impressive early results

By Staff Lieutenant E. Michael Crispen,
Training Academy

Focus on time efficiency, not quotas; Troopers are enabled to be as efficient as possible while on crashes, cases and calls for service while also proactive during unobligated time.

More Efficient Work=Safer Ohio

With an increased emphasis on criminal patrol and continued expectation of reducing the traffic fatalities in Ohio, troopers were asked to do more in 2011 with a reduced force. While aggressive efforts took place to reverse the personnel strength slide with the 150th, 151st, and planned 152nd and 153rd cadet classes, last year the Patrol also instituted a Time Efficiency Value (TEV) program that directly contributed to organizational successes, and allowed every sworn officer to contribute to a safer Ohio.

This TEV program was focused on being more efficient with an officer's time while simultaneously setting an expected standard for officer diligence during their unobligated time.

Evaluation of the first six months of the TEV program (last half of 2011) revealed a statewide efficiency/accountability improvement of 23 percent for the fourth quarter of the year.

Every Patrol district in 2011 saw dramatic efficiency/accountability improvement during this time period. Incredibly, **66 percent** of our entire field units were within the expected TEV range by the end of 2011.

What is the Time Efficiency Value (TEV) program?

TEV was developed following the examples of many companies in the private sector. Managing and balancing time efficiently has been a key component to all successful organizations in America. Patrol management looked at organizations including Adena Health System, Kenworth Truck Manufacturing, Cleveland Metro Health, UPS and portions of the auto industry — all of which measure the efficiency of their employees' time.

Combining their experiences with internal studies, the TEV program measures time in order to create efficiency and balance in the daily operations of troopers. The purpose of this program is to ensure the organization responsibly uses the people's money and appropriately deploys allocated resources. Management believes troopers on the road can provide the information necessary to be successful in the agency's mission, which is why the TEV program is a peer-based, trooper-driven system.

In analyzing the different private sector industries that measure time efficiency, it became apparent that while there was a need to develop a program that made the organization more efficient, there was also a need to ensure this program helped provide better balance in the lives of employees.

If law enforcement could establish a minimum standard of efficiency and ensure everyone met those standards, resources could be deployed to problem areas without over-taxing officers. The benefit of this program is that when everyone is working up to capacity, the work force is more efficient and forced overtime can begin to be reduced. This philosophy helps create a more predictable day in a world where predictability is at a minimum.

The Patrol implemented the TEV program after identifying the need to eliminate excess, non-productive time during troopers' unobligated portions of the day (time not on an incident). It is believed this unobligated time is where improvements to overall productivity, in conjunction with being more efficient during obligated times (time on incidents/service calls), can improve the Public Service Value of the Patrol.

The TEV Program

The Patrol's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system tracks the time of troopers during every minute of their day. Efficiency standards of troopers were set based upon an average time in CAD for all incidents across the state in 2010. In the private sector, the terminology for this is *Units of Service Expectation*.

Units of Service Expectations are the amount of time it takes as a standard to accomplish given tasks. Much like the emergency room environment, consideration is given that not every incident is the same, but over a long period, the average time it takes to handle these tasks should be fairly similar. Therefore, it is reasonable to establish a standard of expectation based upon these averages. For example, some crash scene investigations take longer than others, but on average, over a three-month period, a range of the 2010 statewide average was set. These *Units of Service Expectations* will be evaluated further each year to ensure accuracy and efficiency within the TEV program.

After the *Units of Service Expectations* for each type of incident were established, that information provided an efficiency rating for each officer. This efficiency rating is a total of the productivity of the troopers' work measured against the established efficiency standard.

This efficiency value is only half of the equation as it measures only what the trooper does during obligated times. In order to ensure the trooper is being as diligent as expected during unobligated times, the TEV program tabulates all of the unobligated time in the CAD.

This CAD product is used to determine a ratio between efficiency during obligated time and total unobligated time. The dual advantage of this system is that the trooper is encouraged to be as efficient as possible while on calls or incidents while simultaneously encouraged to be as proactive as possible during unobligated time. The final product of this report gives efficiency statistics based on Time, Crash and Proactive work.

— *Continued on next page.*

2011 Trooper Shield Yields Impressive Results

Provisional fatalities numbers are down, criminal patrol numbers unprecedented

At the beginning of 2011, troopers were asked one simple question under the Patrol's new mantra, Trooper Shield: *What are you going to do today to contribute to a safer Ohio?*

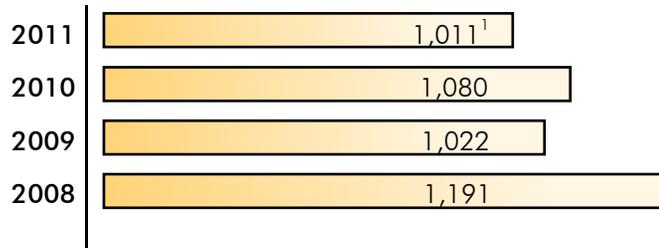
And troopers answered. They answered with hard work which translated into increased OVI arrests and drug seizures and a decrease in the number of people killed in motor vehicle crashes. This hard work contributed to safer roadways and an increased quality of life in Ohio communities.

Provisional statistics reveal 1,011 confirmed deaths on Ohio's roadways in 2011, with an additional 20 unconfirmed deaths. Even if all the unconfirmed fatalities make their way into the confirmed category, there is still a significant decrease over 2010, when 1,080 people lost their lives in motor vehicle crashes in Ohio.

"Even though we made great strides in 2011, we will remain focused on continuing these successes in 2012 and beyond," said Colonel John Born, Patrol superintendent. "We have a lot of work left to do. Too many people are losing their lives on Ohio's roadways and too many criminals continue to traverse our highways."

As part of the Trooper Shield mantra, the Patrol places an increased emphasis on criminal patrol efforts. By doing this, troopers seized an unprecedented amount of drugs, removing them from Ohio communities. Overall increases were seen in every significant category of illegal contraband: prescription pills seizures increased by 46 percent, cocaine was up 663 percent, heroin was up 69 percent and marijuana was up 7 percent.

Ohio Traffic Fatalities Comparison



¹ Early warning systems are tracking 20 additional provisional fatalities for 2011. Detailed information about these fatalities is unavailable and still being processed.

OSHP Drug Seizures

Drug type	2011	2010	+/-
Marijuana ² (gm)	1,198,644	1,119,725	+7%
Marijuana (plants)	21,056	33,927	-38%
Cocaine (gm)	342,460	44,896	+663%
Crack (gm)	1,112	860	+29%
Heroin (gm)	12,054	7,141	+69%
Ecstasy (pills)	1,674	244	+586%
Prescription pills	2011	2010	+/-
Opiates			
Hydrocodone	10,002	6,163	+62%
Oxycodone	24,709	20,064	+23%
Other Opiates ³	2,094	1,870	+12%
Stimulants	1,705	1,319	+29%
Depressants	8,465	6,658	+27%
Antidepressants	489	367	+33%
Other Rx Pills	4,259	3,658	+16%

² Includes BC Bud and hydroponically grown marijuana.

³ Includes other opiate categories as well as opiate agonists and antagonists.

– *Continued from previous page.*

The Time Efficiency Value represents how much time on average the trooper produces mission-oriented activity every hour. Since patrolling and looking for crime or traffic violations cannot be measured as a calculated work statistic, it is not reasonable to expect a rating of 60 minutes out of 60 minutes. However, it is reasonable to expect a trooper to accomplish some mission-oriented task a third of his or her time, or 20 minutes out of every hour.

This is the bar that has been set

for all troopers in Ohio. While it is certainly understood that patrolling and being visible contributes to a safer Ohio, it is not, and cannot be, the only thing a trooper does during unobligated time. As mentioned, this 20-minute expectation has been achieved now by 66 percent of the organization. Our focus is not on how many citations that have been written, but on how many mission-oriented tasks have been done overall to contribute to a safer Ohio.

TEV is not about working faster. It trusts that the vast majority of officers

are working up to capacity and determining what effect these standards have on the deployment of organizational resources. TEV is essential to answering the question for every state trooper, "What will you do today to contribute to a safer Ohio?" The answer to that question is found by maintaining a quality and efficiency standard that provides the best service to the state of Ohio. This allows the agency's leadership to deploy resources in a more effective manner, thereby saving more lives and reducing crime in our state.

Patrol Connecting to the Public through Social Media

The Patrol is no stranger to the social media realm. We have seen great success on Twitter, with nearly 8,000 followers, and on the Patrol's You Tube Channel, where one video has been viewed more than 60,000 times. Recently Public Affairs personnel decided it was time to take the plunge into Facebook, and the response has been nothing short of remarkable. Facebook users are using this platform to ask questions, give thanks and express interest in becoming a trooper someday. It is connecting the Patrol to citizens from Ohio (and beyond) like never before. See for yourself.

Visit the Patrol at:

 www.twitter.com/oshp

 www.facebook.com/ohiostatehighwaypatrol

 www.youtube.com/oshp

 www.flickr.com/photos/oshp

Ohio State Highway Patrol shared a link.

Trooper's quick action credited for saving man's life
www.wtov9.com

JEFFERSON COUNTY, Ohio -- Combined efforts by an observant state trooper, a good Samaritan and other troopers are the reason why a man is alive today, officials said.

318 People Reached · 7 People Talking About This

Like · Comment · Share · February 2 at 1:27pm

American Association of State Troopers (AAST) and 6 others like this.

Rick Stokley The man in the vehicle is my brother-in-law. He is doing good thanks to the quick action of the State Troopers. Without these fine gentlemen, my brother-in-law would not be here today. Can not say "thank you" enough to these gentlemen.
February 2 at 1:52pm · Like · 1

Rick Stokley Follow-up: My brother-in-law is being released from the hospital today. He is doing good so far. He is alive and doing good thanks to the 3 State Troopers who went ABOVE AND BEYOND their jobs Feb. 1. We can not thank these 3 fine gentlemen enough for what they did that day. God bless everyone of you and may God be with you.
February 2 at 11:11am · Like · 3

American Association of State Troopers (AAST) Proud to share this touching story on our FB page as an encouragement to troopers nationwide who often go unthanked.
Tuesday at 2:28pm · Like

Ohio State Highway Patrol Thanks AAST!
5 minutes ago · Like

Daniel Fleischer DeMello

I just wanted to thank the Ohio State Highway Patrol for letting me go to the 2011 J.R. Cadet week program. This program has made me more sure that I want to work in law enforcement when I am older

Like · Comment · January 27 at 8:18pm

Ohio State Highway Patrol Daniel, Glad you enjoyed your time as a Junior Cadet. Goodluck in your future law enforcement career!
January 30 at 9:36am · Like

Daniel Fleischer DeMello I have a question I live by your Chardon Post and I was wondering if for my senior project I could shadow one of your troopers? If I can who should I call to set this up?
January 30 at 8:55pm · Like

Ohio State Highway Patrol Daniel, You will need to contact the Chardon Post regarding this request. It is my understanding it is only one day and you must have documentation/sponsorship from a teacher. Good Luck!
January 31 at 9:36am · Like

Debra Jordan Pierce

I, Debra Jordan Pierce, from Gallipolis want to sincerely thank the Ohio State Highway Patrol trooper that stopped yesterday evening to change my tire while I was stranded on Route 35. Road debris had caused a quick flat on Route 35 and he was very courteous and quick to respond and had the tire changed very quickly. Wish I had gotten his name so I could have thanked him again personally, but my husband and I truly appreciate your service.

Unlike · Comment · about an hour ago

You and Linda Landon Clary like this.

Ohio State Highway Patrol Debra, Thank you for your kind words. I will be sure to forward this along to the Gallipolis Post Commander.
57 minutes ago · Like

Debra Jordan Pierce Thank you very much for forwarding my message. I am truly thankful for his service.
44 minutes ago · Like

Ohio State Highway Patrol Debra - I found out who helped you yesterday and he wanted me to pass this note along. . .
about a minute ago · Like

Ohio State Highway Patrol Debra, Thank you for the kind words! I started working in Gallia County last July and I have to say that the public in this area is very respectful. It was my pleasure to assist you yesterday and if we can ever be of further assistance, don't hesitate to contact our facility!

Sincerely,
Lt. Max Norris
47 seconds ago · Like

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Troopers from the Findlay Post seized a .380 and a 9mm, both loaded, and 207 illegal Oxycodone Hydrochloride prescription pills following a traffic stop in Hancock County on February 1. More info at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov



190 People Reached · 1 Person Talking About This

Like · Comment · Share · February 2 at 8:53am

Lois Hall Never thought of it this way - but in so many ways the OSHP is also Public Health... loaded guns seized - prevented injuries/deaths. 207 Oxycodone seized - prevented abuse/misuse. Even "routine" speeding stops... prevented traffic injuries and fatalities. OSHP - YOU are Public Health! Thanks for all you do for Ohioans!
February 2 at 7:13pm · Like

Patrol Reaching Out to Families of Employees Killed in Line of Duty

Beginning this year, family members of our employees who were killed in the line of duty have been contacted near the anniversary date of the employee's death.

Thanks to a suggestion from Lt. Colonel Dan Kolcum, and to ensure that the relationship between the family and the Patrol continues, all families will receive a letter from Colonel John Born and a phone call from their local post commander. In addition, the Patrol's website is posting tributes to each Patrol employee killed in the line of duty on the date of his or her passing.

As an organization, we want to guarantee that the men and women who gave their lives in service to our Division retain their rightful place in our hearts and memories.



In addition to the annual Patrol Memorial Ceremony held each May, the Division has started honoring employees killed in the line of duty and contacting their families throughout the year in an effort to maintain and strengthen relationships with the families.

Recent Criminal Patrol Successes

February 20: 100 pounds of hydroponic marijuana seized



Troopers stopped a 2001 Freightliner Commercial Semi Tractor pulling a Wabash Box Trailer for a marked lanes violation on the Ohio Turnpike in Lucas County. Criminal indicators were observed and a consent search revealed nine large boxes of hydroponic marijuana located in the middle of the trailer, co-mingled with the legitimate load.

February 10: 1,928 illegal prescription pills and 154 U.S. savings bonds valued at \$15,400 seized

Troopers seized 1,928 illegal prescription pills and 154 U.S. savings bonds with a face value of \$15,400 following a traffic stop in Hancock County. Troopers stopped a vehicle for a marked lanes violation in Findlay. Upon contact with the driver, troopers observed obvious signs of impairment. After further investigation, the driver was arrested for OVI. During a search incident to arrest, several pills and paraphernalia were located on the driver's person. A probable cause search of the vehicle revealed a large bag of pills and the U.S. savings bonds. Further investigation revealed the pills and savings bonds were related to a burglary in Toledo that was under investigation.

January 11: 70 pounds of marijuana seized



Troopers seized 70 pounds of marijuana, valued at more than \$150,000, following a traffic stop in Preble County. Troopers stopped a 2004 Chrysler Pacifica for an unsafe lane change and failure to use headlights in the rain. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed the marijuana.

December 22: six kilos of cocaine seized



Troopers seized six kilos of cocaine valued at \$600,000 following a traffic stop in Lucas County. Troopers stopped a rented 2011 Ford Edge for a speed violation. Criminal indicators were observed and a Patrol drug-sniffing canine alerted to the vehicle. A probable cause search revealed the six kilos of cocaine in a natural cavity in the rear of the vehicle.

December 7: 17 pounds of heroin seized

Troopers seized more than 17 pounds of heroin valued at more than \$3 million following a traffic stop in Wood County. Troopers stopped a 2011 Dodge Caliber for a following too close violation. Criminal indicators were observed and consent search revealed the heroin hidden in the inner wall of a refrigerated cooler in the vehicle's cargo area. This heroin seizure is the largest in the Patrol's history.



November 30: Traffic stop leads to meth lab in motel

A traffic stop led authorities to a meth lab in a motel in Lancaster. Troopers initiated a traffic stop for a headlight violation. During contact with the vehicle's occupants, the trooper observed evidence of a meth lab inside the vehicle. Patrol investigators and local task force officers responded to the scene. Investigators obtained information that led them to the motel, where officers discovered a meth lab, a 9MM handgun and other drug paraphernalia inside a motel room. Four suspects were charged with illegal manufacturing of chemicals, a second-degree felony. The driver of the vehicle was also charged with OVI.

6-State Trooper Project Commits to Making a Safer Heartland

Law enforcement managers from six states and a Canadian province have agreed to combine efforts toward, "Making a Safer Heartland," in 2012 as part of *The 6-State Trooper Project*.

Strategies for operational efficiencies related to criminal patrol, drug interdiction and traffic safety were the focus when the Ohio State Highway Patrol hosted a multi-state senior management operational planning meeting on November 15-16, 2011, at its Training Academy in Columbus.

Senior management officers from the Indiana State Police, Kentucky State Police, Michigan State Police, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Pennsylvania State Police, West Virginia State Police and Ontario Provincial Police all attended the two-day session.

Managers from all agencies discussed operational topics that included criminal patrol and drug interdiction, OVI and traffic enforcement, criminal intel and state fusion centers, funding challenges, recruitment and the hiring process.

At the end of the meeting, an operational calendar for inter-agency/state combined enforcement operations in 2012 was established.

In this time of increasing budgetary and operational challenges, all state agency representatives agreed on the critically important need to collaborate in missions to maintain safety and security in the midwest region of the United States.

During the two days of discussions, many significant insights and contributions into ways in which all participating organizations, and the Ontario Provincial Police, can provide joint law enforcement operations. The multi-state meeting exceeded expectations and validated Ohio State Highway Patrol relationships with colleagues from surrounding states.

In order to begin the process of providing tangible law enforcement and safety services to the region, managers from the participating states agreed to the following deliverable items:

- Group Name: *The 6-State Trooper Project*
- Strategic Mission: To provide for the residents of our region, combined and coordinated law enforcement and security services in the areas of highway safety, criminal patrol and intel sharing.
- Logo: Each agency should display *The 6-State Trooper Project* logo on the front page of the agency website.
- Media Release Template: Joint operations involving any combination of agencies in *The 6-State Trooper Project* should be spotlighted to the media, including use of a specially-designed media release template.
- Utilize *The 6-State Trooper Project* 2012 operational calendar for planning combined operations. The joint operations indicated on the calendar reflect times when all six partnering states will work together at the same time.

Other operational opportunities involving smaller combinations of states working together are not reflected



STATE TROOPER PROJECT



on the calendar and are being independently coordinated amongst the involved states throughout the year.

Managers from all organizations in *The 6-State Trooper Project* are expected to meet later this year to discuss operational planning for 2013 and beyond. Optimism for success through *The 6-State Trooper Project* is shared throughout the partnerships as managers see the unique opportunity to dramatically impact the criminal element and improve the quality of life in our region through collective efforts.

The 6-State Trooper Project **2012 Operational Calendar**

March 1-3: Criminal Patrol – Drug Interdiction

April 4: Intel Sharing – State Intel/Fusion Center Quarterly Teleconference

May 3-5: Traffic Enforcement – All Traffic on Interstate 70 and Interstate 75

June 29-30: Traffic Enforcement – OVI Checkpoint Weekend with OVI Enforcement and Saturation Patrols

July 2: Intel Sharing – State Intel/Fusion Center Quarterly Teleconference

September 27-29: Criminal Patrol – Marijuana Interdiction and Eradication

October 3: Intel Sharing – State Intel/Fusion Center Quarterly Teleconference

January 2 (2013): Intel Sharing – State Intel/Fusion Center Quarterly Teleconference



Employees lauded for assistance, compassion

1/21/12

I just wanted to let you know how helpful two members of the Lucasville Post were to me recently. It is not a dramatic story of life and death, but it was so touching and helpful that I want to share it. On January 2, 2012, I was driving north on US 23 and unintentionally tossed an apple that I was eating out my window as I put my window up. My wedding bands went with it. I was horrified. I turned around and parked my car. I walked up and down the median thinking if I could find the apple, I MIGHT be able to find the ring. I looked for 45 minutes and had to take a break because of the cold weather. I drove my car slowly, with hazard lights on, back up the other side, hoping to see the apple. That is where a trooper entered the picture. His name was Scott—Tpr. Scott Moore.

He asked me about my erratic and slow driving and I burst into tears explaining I had lost my wedding ring. He called into the post and was able to offer to spend some time with me looking. We looked for another 40 minutes or so and then another vehicle pulled up and out jumped Dispatcher Sonia Banks. The two of them helped me locate the apple, finally! We looked over the area and, sadly, did not find the ring.

They both offered to help me get a metal detector—Sonia even offered to meet me after her shift ended to loan me her personal metal detector! Tpr. Moore helped me landmark the location so I would know where to look when I returned. I was able to locate a detector on my own and returned to the area later that afternoon. I spent another two hours looking.

It was getting dark, an ice storm was on its way, and I was frozen and defeated. As I went to go back to my car, Sonia pulled up and excitedly told me that an ODOT worker by the name of Roger had found my ring and it was back at the post! Unbeknownst to me, before leaving the scene earlier, she and Tpr. Moore had approached the ODOT worker and explained the situation, asking him to keep an eye out for it. The ODOT worker had done just that and found my ring.

The ring is extra special to me. As is with many couples, we had endured some big ups and downs. I had the engagement ring since we got married nine years ago and we had never purchased the band. This past November, for my 50th birthday, we bought the matching band. When I lost them, I was devastated. My husband had assured me, “rings can be replaced,” but I could not stop looking.

Tpr. Moore and Sonia did not have to help me look. They did not have to offer to locate metal detectors. The ODOT worker did not have to look, and, when he found it, he did not have to turn it in. Sonia did not have to go out of her way to come by to see if I was out there looking again to tell me it had been found—a message had already been left on my home phone.

I am truly thankful for their assistance and kindheartedness. I'm thankful they went out of their way to help. I'm

thankful that those two people work at our local OSHP post. Oh, I'm glad I got the ring back, too.

—P.J.

12/8/11

I would like to express my extreme thanks and gratitude to Ohio State Trooper Cynthia Wilt. On November 22, 2011, my husband and I were traveling eastbound on Interstate 80 in route to Clarion, Penn. At about 2:30 a.m., the rear driver-side tire blew out. We were able to safely pull off onto the right shoulder. We were faced with several obstacles. The weather was cold and pouring rain. We were not exactly sure where we were or what tire service stations were nearby. My husband is undergoing cancer treatments and does not have the strength he normally does. I have not changed a tire in about 20 years. The fact that the blown tire was on the driver side made the situation quite dangerous. Speaking with our roadside assistance service operator, we were informed it would be two hours before a tow truck could come to help us. The situation was starting to feel pretty grim.

All of a sudden, I responded to a tap on my passenger-side window. I rolled down my window and met Tpr. Wilt. Calm and reassuring, she pointed us in the direction of the Sears Auto Center, just up the road in the Richland Mall. My husband informed her that roadside assistance said two hours and explained that he had cancer, not having the strength to change the tire. Tpr. Wilt said to me, “I don't typically change a flat tire if it is on the driver side, but if you can help me, I think we can do it.” I knew right then and even told her as I got out of the car, “You are like our guardian angel.”

Tpr. Wilt placed flares in front and behind our vehicle. Between Tpr. Wilt and with some help from my husband, we got our luggage into the back seat and the spare out of the trunk in what felt like a minute! In the cold, pouring rain, laying on the ground, Tpr. Wilt got the car jacked up, and armed with a 4-way lug nut changer, the lug nuts were off, the blown tire in the trunk and the doughnut onto the wheel in record time. Once the tire was on, Tpr. Wilt led us to the Motel 8 down the road and gave us directions to Richland Mall.

Once we were settled in our motel room, we were very much aware of how lucky and grateful we were to have had this experience. We were profoundly impressed by Tpr. Wilt's candor, strength, skill, strength, resolve and compassion. In the middle of the night, helping two strangers, Tpr. Wilt went above and beyond the call of duty. We thought our experience with Tpr. Wilt should be shared. We told our story many times over Thanksgiving weekend, and will never forget our experience. Tpr. Wilt was much more than an Ohio State Patrol Trooper; she really was our guardian angel.

—B.B.

Granville's Jermaine Thaxton is 2011 State Trooper of the Year



Jermaine D. Thaxton

As 24 past winners of the State Trooper of the Year Award looked on, Colonel John Born announced that Tpr. Jermaine D. Thaxton, Granville, is the Patrol's 2011 State Trooper of the Year. The award was given during the Patrol's Leadership Awards in Columbus on February 10, 2012.

In 2011, Tpr. Thaxton achieved 307 OVI arrests. He is passionate about removing impaired drivers from the road and often challenges

his coworkers to see who can get the first OVI arrest of the night.

He has led his midnight shift in traffic stops for five years running and is also a leader in safety belt enforcement. His supervisors say he is very team oriented and works with the other members of his shift on crash investigations, OVI arrests or to target criminal activity. He also is a resource for supervisors, and is known as the local expert on OVI arrests and Licking County court procedures.

Upon accepting the award, Tpr. Thaxton thanked his coworkers and supervision at the Granville Post, as well as Columbus District staff, Colonel Born and Thomas P. Charles, director of the Ohio Department

of Public Safety, for their support and leadership.

A member of the 140th Academy Class, Tpr. Thaxton earned his commission in 2003. He served at Toledo until July 2004 when he transferred to Granville. He has been voted Post Trooper of the Year three times and has earned Columbus District Trooper of the Year twice. In his career, he also has earned the Ace and Criminal Patrol awards for his enforcement efforts. Tpr. Thaxton is a graduate of Marshall University. He resides in Westerville.



As previous State Troopers of the Year looked on, 2011 State Trooper of the Year Jermaine Thaxton addressed the audience at the Patrol's Leadership Awards.

Davis earns Chiaramonte Award for Charitable Efforts



Matthew W. Davis

Tpr. Matthew W. Davis, Fremont, earned the Robert M. Chiaramonte Humanitarian Award.

The Chiaramonte Award was established to recognize troopers' dedication to humanitarian efforts, both professionally and personally.

In addition to his excellent work for the Division, Tpr. Davis has made it his personal mission to positively impact the lives of disadvantaged people in his community.

In 2011, he organized a 5K race to raise money and awareness for a local food pantry. An avid runner, Tpr. Davis found sponsors, promoted the race and recruited runners to help fight hunger.

He is a frequent volunteer at the food pantry the race benefitted and also serves with a local group called the Citizens Circle whose members visit county jails to help violators prepare to return to their communities.

Tpr. Davis also helped found a Royal Rangers Program through his church to provide boys in his community an opportunity to learn about the outdoors and engage in charitable projects.

Tpr. Davis is a member of the 138th Academy Class and earned his commission in 2002. He and his wife, Michele, reside in Bettsville with their two children.



Tpr. Matt Davis accepts the Chiaramonte Humanitarian Award from Retired Colonel Robert M. Chiaramonte. From left: ODPS Director Tom Charles, Retired Colonel Tom Rice, Chiaramonte, Davis and Colonel John Born.

Webb earns Blue Max Award



Robert N. Webb

The Blue Max Award goes to the officer who recovers the most stolen vehicles with apprehensions during the year. Tpr. Robert N. Webb, Portsmouth, was the 2011 Blue Max Award winner.

In 2011, Tpr. Webb recovered 11 stolen vehicles valued at \$33,675 and apprehended 11 suspects. He recovered several vehicles in the course of crash investigations. One such incident involved a suspect who insisted he had permission to use the vehicle

he was driving, but was unable to explain why he did not have a key and had been starting the car with a screwdriver.

Tpr. Webb joined the Patrol as a member of the 148th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March 2008 and served at Chillicothe before transferring to Portsmouth in March 2010. He resides in Lucasville.

Beidelschies wins Criminal Patrol



Kurt D. Beidelschies

The Criminal Patrol Award goes to the officer with the most investigations of felony cases that lead to felony arrests.

The winner for 2011 was Tpr. Kurt D. Beidelschies, Findlay, who finished the year with 67 criminal patrol points and 86 felony arrests.

Most of his cases were drug related. In one stop, he seized more than eight pounds of black tar heroin, the largest seizure of its kind by a member of our Division.

Tpr. Beidelschies joined the Patrol in March 2006 as a member of the 146th Academy Class. He earned his commission in October of that year and was assigned to Findlay where he has served throughout his career. Tpr. Beidelschies resides in Upper Sandusky.

Cambridge Group earns Electronic Technician Team of the Year

In 2011, the Cambridge Team distinguished itself by seeking out new and innovative ways to reduce costs and maximize resources wherever possible. The team focused on performing in-house repairs and limiting purchase costs by recycling. In addition, the team provided a seamless transition with the opening of the district's third dispatch center in New Philadelphia. They also completed installation of new light bars quickly and without overtime and began installation of the Division's new in-car video systems.

The Cambridge Team is: ET 3 Jeffrey A. Burris, ET 2 Michael C. Cover, and ET 2 James K. Howell.



Jeffrey A. Burris



Michael C. Cover



James K. Howell

Blue is Dispatcher of the Year



Denise S. Blue

Disp. Denise S. Blue of the Findlay Dispatch Center was selected 2011 State Dispatcher of the Year from 11 district and GHQ candidates.

Disp. Blue was cited for her knowledge of, and dedication to, her job and for setting a standard for others to follow. She is always willing to assist her coworkers and gladly takes on additional duties and responsibilities. She resides in Findlay.

Leadership Awards video

The Ohio State Highway Patrol released a video detailing employees' efforts to *Contribute to a Safer Ohio* as part of the 2011 Leadership Awards. The video can be viewed on the Patrol's You Tube Channel at www.youtube.com/oshp or by scanning this QR code with your smart phone.



State Trooper Recognition Award goes to Stacey Arnold



Stacey L. Arnold

Tpr. Stacey L. Arnold of the Northwest Regional Criminal Patrol Unit was selected as the State Trooper Recognition Award winner from 10 regional recipients. The Trooper Recognition Award recognizes excellence among troopers who are assigned to specialty positions.

Tpr. Arnold's expertise in highway drug interdiction was recognized by the National Crime Enforcement Association, and she

and her canine partner, Rony, achieved several significant drug seizures during the year.

Tpr. Arnold is a member of the 126th Academy Class. She earned her commission in 1994 and has served in the Findlay District throughout her career. She resides in Holland.

District Trooper Recognition Awards

- Findlay Tpr. Stacey L. Arnold, *canine handler*
- Bucyrus Tpr. Ryan S. Wilson, *plainclothes investigator*
- Massillon Tpr. Rayetta J. Kanters, *plainclothes investigator*
- Warren Tpr. Michael D. Russell, *plainclothes investigator*
- Columbus..... Tpr. Travis H. Woodyard, *canine handler*
- Cambridge Tpr. Mark W. Stelzer, *plainclothes investigator*
- Wilmington..... Tpr. Daniel R. Brown, *motor vehicle inspector*
- Jackson..... Tpr. Nicholas S. Johnson, *canine handler*
- GHQ..... Tpr. Douglas D. Elliott, *plainclothes investigator*

Winfrey wins Employee Recognition



Essie M. Winfrey

Essie M. Winfrey, an Administrative Professional 4 in the Office of Strategic Services, received the award presented annually to recognize excellence by a civilian employee.

Winfrey came to the Patrol in 1999 and quickly became known for her positive attitude and professional competence. In 2011, she was instrumental in providing support and assistance as administrative sections were restructured at GHQ.

Winfrey resides in Columbus with her husband. They have two sons.

Davis is Driver Examiner of the Year



Scott A. Davis

Scott A. Davis, Hilliard Driver Examination Station, was selected State Driver License Examiner of the Year from 10 district winners.

DX Davis' supervisor has praised him as an integral part of the District Six driver exam team. The district relies on him to train new examiners as well as to provide training to driving schools and new drivers.

DX Davis joined the Patrol in April 2007. He resides in Galloway.

Employee Recognition Awards

- Findlay Thomas R. Winter
- Bucyrus Brian J. Bender
- Massillon..... Patricia A. McLean
- Warren Charlene Ulrich
- Piqua Jody A. Henault
- Columbus..... Tracy J. Miller
- Cambridge..... Jessica L. Tysinger
- Wilmington Jack Coates III
- Jackson..... Rodney A. Parker
- Field Operations..... Sherri A. Allen
- Strategic Services..... Essie M. Winfrey
- Training Academy..... Ebenezer Lartey

District DX of the Year

- Findlay Daniel P. Arend
- Bucyrus Martha E. Lewis
- Massillon..... Brenda L. Ruhlin
- Massillon..... Arthur G. Fertig
- Warren Nicole Brown
- Piqua Anna M. Jones
- Columbus..... Scott A. Davis
- Cambridge..... Susan A. Hollins
- Wilmington Denise R. Mulvaney
- Jackson..... Shawn R. Kiefer

Vansickle wins Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Award



Douglas K. Vansickle

MCEI Douglas K. Vansickle, Findlay DHQ, won the 2011 State Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector of the Year Award.

Commercial motor vehicle troopers, load limit inspector troopers and motor carrier enforcement inspectors are eligible for the award. The winner is selected based on a written test, personal interview and review of qualifications.

MCEI Vansickle joined the Division in 1996 and has served as a motor carrier enforcement inspector in our Findlay District since 1998. He resides in Martin with his wife, Claudia.

District Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Award Winners

- FindlayMCEI Douglas K. Vansickle
- Bucyrus MCEI John H. Huffman
- Massillon..... MCEI Douglas A. Bell
- WarrenMCEI Iric J. Fidram
- PiquaMCEI Steven W. Morrie
- Columbus..... MCEI Steven M. Daniel
- Cambridge.....MCEI James S. Underation
- Wilmington MCEI Kevin M. Swartz
- Jackson.....MCEI Anthony R. Lester
- BereaTpr. Kevin P. Fleming

Statewide Auxiliary award winners honored at Patrol ceremony

In addition to awards for employees, Patrol Auxiliary volunteers are also recognized as part of the Leadership Awards.

William J. Duffy Award of Excellence

Aux. Ofc. Thomas G. Dittoe, Lancaster, received the Duffy Award.

Aux. Ofc. Dittoe joined the Auxiliary in 2008, and is assigned to the Lancaster Post. Over the last three years, he has volunteered more than 500 hours per year, including riding on patrol, working at sobriety checkpoints and special details.

In addition to volunteering with the Auxiliary, he is a captain with Somerset-Reading Township, serving with both the fire and EMS departments. His full-time job is as an outside sales manager with Snider-Flautt Lumber in New Lexington and Zanesville.

The Duffy Award is named for the late Aux. Lt. Colonel William Duffy. To be eligible for the award, members of the Auxiliary must have a minimum of 300 volunteer hours per year over three consecutive years, maintain physical fitness and respond to emergency calls and special details when needed.

Auxiliary Officer of the Year

Aux. Ofc. Anthony M. Chamberlain, Delaware, won the State Auxiliary Officer of the Year Award for his excellence and dedication as a volunteer.

The Auxiliary Officer of the Year Award is presented to the Auxiliary Officer who volunteers the most hours in a given year while demonstrating the core values of the Ohio



Thomas G. Dittoe

State Highway Patrol Auxiliary.

Aux. Ofc. Chamberlain joined the Auxiliary in 2009. In 2011, he volunteered 1,341 hours, including time riding on patrol, assisting at the Ohio State Fair, Ohio State University football game details, the American Legion Memorial Day National Cemetery Detail, and working at our Academy Store.

Aux. Ofc. Chamberlain is also a volunteer with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and is active in his church where he is a member of the Knights of Columbus.



Anthony M. Chamberlain

District Auxiliary Award Winners

- FindlayAux. Maj. Cynthia A. Drake
- Bucyrus Aux. Maj. Gerald C. Flegal
- Massillon.....Aux. Capt. James C. Kalchert
- Warren Aux. Maj. Denis M. Hite
- Piqua Aux. Maj. Ross A. Leider
- Columbus..... Aux. Off. Anthony M. Chamberlain
- Cambridge.....Aux. Off. Greg Scalley
- WilmingtonAux. Capt. James M. Reynolds
- Jackson..... Aux. Maj. Edward G. Zell

Post Troopers and Dispatchers of the Year 2011

Troopers

Dispatchers

Findlay District

Lima	Matthew R. Schmenk	N/A
Defiance	Joseph R. Sisco	N/A
Findlay	Justin G. Craig	Denise S. Blue**
Toledo	Andrew J. Edinger	N/A
Van Wert	Shawn D. Cook*	Patrick P. Bowsher
Bowling Green	Raul Cuellar	James R. Barlow

Bucyrus District

Bucyrus	Brandon D. Spalding	Brent W. Sigler
Sandusky	Kent D. Jeffries	Heidi J. Maloy*
Norwalk	Timothy J. Hoffman*	N/A
Marion	Mark A. Menendez	N/A
Mansfield	Jason P. Murfield	Christopher D. Baker
Fremont	Anthony J. Scherley	N/A

Massillon District

Ashland	Andrew T. Topp*	N/A
Elyria	Allen C. Marcum	N/A
Medina	Aleksandar Tot	Kevin T. Koney
Canton	Nickolas B. Goodnite	Timothy E. Cordes
Wooster	Brandon J. Richardson	Emily D. Gerhart*

Warren District

Ashtabula	Christopher T. Thayne	Lisa M. Talladino
Lisbon	Eric J. Carroll	Tamara A. Scheetz*
Chardon	Ryan W. Pickett	N/A
Canfield	Eric E. Brown	N/A
Ravenna	Jonathan A. Ganley*	Gayleen A. Littell
Warren	Kristopher J. Conaway	N/A

Piqua District

Wapakoneta	Joshua J. Carter	N/A
Springfield	Timothy S. Durham	Justin M. Booher
Piqua	Nathan D. Stanfield	Thomas E. Huff*
Dayton	Matthew P. Robinson*	Aimee M. Young
Marysville	Timothy L. Ehrenborg	Jason L. Kidder

Troopers

Dispatchers

Columbus District

Delaware	Gregory L. Cunningham	Laura B. Hurlbert
Lancaster	Chad M. McMunn	Ernest M. King*
Cols. Metro	Jeremy S. Garner	N/A
Granville	Jermaine D. Thaxton**	N/A
West Jeff.	Matthew D. Himes	Monica A. Minter
Mt. Gilead	Christopher T. Carpenter	N/A
Circleville	Terrence D. Vollmer	N/A

Cambridge District

St. Clairsville	Mark E. Visvary	David L. Snyder
Cambridge	Maurice E. Waddell	David M. Spratt*
Steubenville	Joseph M. Parsons*	N/A
Zanesville	Stephen E. Williams	N/A
New Philly	Shawn F. Milburn	N/A
Marietta	Stephen L. Rogers	N/A

Wilmington District

Georgetown	David A. Grooms	N/A
Hamilton	Brian A. Bost	N/A
Batavia	Nathan J. Pabin*	Neil E. Yockey*
Wilmington	Chad E. Smith	Darla M. Johnson
Xenia	Ryan A. Born	N/A
Lebanon	Christopher P. Creech	Amy J. McCleese

Jackson District

Athens	G. Heath Ward	Brandy L. Laudermilt
Gallipolis	Chadwick Clingenpeel	N/A
Jackson	Paul T. Mercer*	Jason L. Saunders*
Ironton	Robert D. McClelland	N/A
Chillicothe	Benjamin R. Seabolt	N/A
Portsmouth	Chris J. Williams	Drew E. Fry

Berea District

Swanton	Eric M. Stroud*	
Milan	Christopher H. Beyer	
Hiram	Michael D. Helmick	
Berea DHQ		Anne LaRue*

GHQ

Cols. Comm. Ctr.	Ian M. Miller
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* District Winners **State Winners

2011 Blue Max Program Awards

Ace Award

Tpr. Steven Brooks
Tpr. Tyler Carr
Tpr. Shawn Cook
Tpr. Tiffiany Coriell
Tpr. Wm. Scott Davis
Tpr. David Dingeman
Tpr. Timothy Durham
Tpr. Matthew Dyer
Tpr. Daniel Edelbrock
Tpr. Christopher Ellison
Tpr. Richard Gable
Tpr. Matthew Geer
Tpr. Matthew Himes
Tpr. Daniel Jesse

Tpr. Nicholas Lewis
Tpr. Craig Malone
Tpr. Joseph Parsons
Tpr. Scott Powers
Tpr. Ryan Robirds
Tpr. Keith Smith
Tpr. Mark Starnes
Tpr. Nathan Ward
Tpr. Robert Webb

Four Bolts

Tpr. Nicholas Clemens
Tpr. Shawn Fosgate
Tpr. Scott Louive
Tpr. Johnnie Maier

Tpr. Allen Marcum
Tpr. Matthew Murphy
Tpr. Brandon Spalding
Tpr. James Taylor

Three Bolts

Tpr. Kevin Beringo
Tpr. Lonnie Butler
Tpr. Darren Fussner
Tpr. Robert Grubb
Tpr. Jason Halstead
Tpr. Steven Ilo
Tpr. Charles Mendenhall
Tpr. Chad McMunn

Tpr. Cristian Perrin
Tpr. Craig Polasky
Tpr. Steven Posada
Tpr. Brandon Ruhl
Tpr. Jacob Salamon
Tpr. Rustun Schack
Tpr. Thiphason Vongsy

2011 Criminal Patrol Awards

12 Points

Tpr. Stacey Arnold
Tpr. Scott Bayless
Tpr. John Beeler
Tpr. Kurt Beidelschies
Sgt. Jeffery Bernard
Tpr. Christopher Beyer
Tpr. Joshua Beynon
Tpr. Glenn Carpenter
Tpr. David Chamberlin
Tpr. Kristopher Conaway
Tpr. Shawn Cook
Tpr. Tiffiany Coriell
Tpr. Steven Daugherty

Tpr. Wm. Scott Davis
Sgt. Kevin Dillard
Tpr. Timothy Dobbins
Tpr. Christopher Ellison
Tpr. Michael Ervin
Tpr. Matthew Geer
Tpr. Shawn Grim
Tpr. Christina Hayes
Tpr. Matthew Himes
Tpr. Delmer Hurd
Tpr. Daniel Jesse
Tpr. Nicholas Johnson
Sgt. Michael Kemmer

Sgt. Neil Laughlin
Tpr. Nicholas Lewis
Tpr. Johnnie Maier
Tpr. Jerrold March
Tpr. Paul Mercer
Sgt. Theresa Mikesh
Tpr. David Norman
Tpr. Cristian Perrin
Tpr. Michael Phipps
Tpr. Matthew Ruth
Tpr. Jody Sawyers
Tpr. Rustun Schack
Tpr. Benjamin Seabolt

Tpr. David Slanker
Tpr. David Stuart
Sgt. Timothy Timberlake
Tpr. Michael Trader
Tpr. Terrance Vollmer
Tpr. Nathan Ward
Tpr. Christopher Ward
Tpr. Robert Webb
Tpr. Michael Wilson
Tpr. Travis Woodyard
Tpr. Zachary Yoder

5 Points

Tpr. Shawn Allar
Tpr. Brian Alloy
Tpr. Frank Applegate
Tpr. Christopher Ausse
Tpr. James Baker
Tpr. Scotty Balcomb
Tpr. Rich Barrett
Tpr. Penny Beaty
Tpr. Robert Bodo
Tpr. Joshua Bolduan
Tpr. Robert Bradley
Tpr. Steven Brooks
Sgt. James Burkhart
Tpr. Chad Canter
Tpr. Ricky Caraway
Tpr. Tyler Carr
Tpr. John Chaney
Tpr. Alec Coil
Tpr. Justin Cooper
Tpr. Justin Craig
Tpr. James Cress
Tpr. Byron Crockett
Tpr. Jeffrey Crook
Tpr. Robert Curry
Tpr. David Dingeman
Tpr. Darrell Dowler

Tpr. Daniel Dubelko
Tpr. Alan Dunbar
Tpr. Daniel Edelbrock
Tpr. Rachel Efav
Tpr. Sean Eitel
Tpr. Charles Emery
Sgt. Jacob Fletcher
Tpr. Shawn Fosgate
Tpr. Byron Foxx
Tpr. Kaitlin Fuller
Sgt. Mark Glennon
Tpr. Nickolas Goodnite
Tpr. Tim Gossett
Tpr. David Grooms
Tpr. Robert Grubb
Tpr. Nathan Haas
Tpr. Thomas Halko
Tpr. Jason Halstead
Tpr. Stephanie Hanner
Tpr. Rocky Hise
Sgt. Thomas Holbert
Sgt. Justin Hurlbert
Tpr. Jacques Illanz
Tpr. Steven Ilo
Tpr. Jeffrey Kaess
Sgt. Christopher Kelley

Sgt. Don Kelley
Sgt. Jacob Kisor
Tpr. Bruce Mac Laine
Tpr. Mike Mahaffey
Tpr. Ann Malone
Tpr. Craig Malone
Tpr. Shawn Martin
Tpr. Sean McLaughlin
Tpr. Mark McNeely
Tpr. Jason Metzger
Tpr. Aaron Morgan
Tpr. Jeremy Morris
Tpr. Shane Morrow
Tpr. Jason Murfield
Tpr. Theodore Neal
Tpr. Jeremy Parks
Tpr. Thurman Peterson
Tpr. Ryan Pickett
Tpr. Craig Polasky
Tpr. Steven Posada
Tpr. Melanie Provenzano
Tpr. Marvin Pullins
Tpr. Jack Reno
Tpr. Lawrence Roberts
Tpr. Matt Robinson
Tpr. Ryan Robirds

Tpr. Alejo Romero
Tpr. Travis Ross
Tpr. Phillip Rutherford
Tpr. Isaac Saunders
Tpr. Anthony Scherley
Tpr. Rebecca Sexton
Tpr. Marquis Shannon
Tpr. Dwayne Shephard
Sgt. Leo Shirkey
Tpr. Paul Shore
Tpr. Shawn Simms
Tpr. Joseph Sisco
Tpr. Evan Slates
Tpr. Shaun Smart
Tpr. Ryan Stewart
Tpr. Eric Stroud
Tpr. Jacob Teal
Tpr. James Trelka
Tpr. Glendon Ward
Tpr. Aaron Williams
Tpr. Adam Williams
Tpr. Gary Wolfe
Sgt. Scott Wyckhouse

Certificates of Recognition

Tpr. Robert J. Bodo, Steubenville, received a Certificate of Recognition for saving the life of a motorist in distress. On February 1, 2012, Tpr. Bodo stopped with what he believed to be an abandoned, disabled vehicle in Jefferson County. When he approached the vehicle, he found the driver, who appeared to be sleeping, in a reclined position. Tpr. Bodo knocked on the window to wake the man, who reported experiencing chest pains. Tpr. Bodo called for emergency medical services shortly before the motorist began gasping for breath. When the man went limp and suddenly stopped breathing, Tpr. Bodo moved him out of his vehicle to the side of the roadway, retrieved the automated external defibrillator (AED) from his patrol car and initiated CPR. A passerby stopped and assisted Tpr. Bodo until Tpr. Gregory A. Mamula and Tpr. Eric J. Derrington arrived on scene. They activated the AED while Tpr. Bodo continued CPR until emergency medical personnel relieved him. The victim was transported to Trinity West Hospital where he underwent emergency surgery. EMS personnel reported that Tpr. Bodo undoubtedly saved the victim's life.

**Robert J. Bodo**

Tpr. Timothy M. Gossett, Marietta, received a Certificate of Recognition for rescuing a motorist from a burning vehicle. On December 6, 2011, Tpr. Gossett responded to a one-vehicle crash. At the scene, he found the vehicle had traveled off the roadway, hit a fence and become stuck in mud. A passenger was outside the vehicle while the driver was trying to drive the vehicle out of the

**Timothy M. Gossett**

mud. Tpr. Gossett noted both individuals were extremely intoxicated and that the vehicle had caught fire. He instructed both men to get away from the car, but the driver remained in the vehicle, oblivious to the fire. As flames rolled over the hood and entered the engine compartment, Tpr. Gossett ordered the driver out of the car, but the man still did not exit the vehicle. Tpr. Gossett then climbed under the fence and forcibly removed the driver from behind the wheel. As he drug the man to safety, flames entered the passenger compartment and completely engulfed the vehicle. The driver received minor burns to his feet, but Tpr. Gossett's actions saved him from more serious injuries or death.

Sgt. Raymond W. Joseph, Academy, and Tpr. Andrew T. Dunn, Georgetown, received Certificates of Recognition for lifesaving actions. On October 25, 2011, Tpr. Dunn, then a cadet in the 151st Class, was in the Academy cafeteria when another cadet indicated he was choking. Tpr. Dunn began administering the Heimlich maneuver, extensively dislodging the obstruction. Sgt. Joseph arrived in the cafeteria and began assisting Tpr. Dunn. Sgt. Joseph moved behind the choking cadet and reached around him to pull his shirt out. He placed his hands under the cadet's protective vest and performed the Heimlich maneuver again, which further dislodged the food obstructing the cadet's airway. The cadet was able to regain breathing and quickly recovered from the incident.

**Raymond W. Joseph****Andrew T. Dunn**

OSHP TRAINING

Bachelor's Degree Earned

Capt. Richard C. Baron, Critical Incident Communications Center/Ohio Homeland Security, graduated summa cum laude from Franklin University on December, 23, 2011, with a Bachelor of Science degree in public safety management from Franklin University. Capt. Baron is a member of the 116th Academy Class.

FBI National Academy

Lt. Christopher M. Johnson, Capitol Operations, graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, on December 16, 2011. The National Academy program provides 10 weeks of advanced investigative, management and fitness training for selected law enforcement officers with proven records of professionalism.

Southern Police Institute

Lt. Ronald E. Raines, Marysville, graduated from the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute on November 11, 2011. The 12-week course is designed to develop competent law enforcement managers who are capable of assuming positions of leadership in their respective agencies.

Administrative Officers Management Program

Lt. Marvin E. Hill, Warren District LCS, graduated from North Carolina State University's School of Public and International Affairs Administrative Officers Management Program on November 18, 2011. The 12-week program provides management and leadership education for law enforcement professionals.

Trooper Honored by Ohio House

Tpr. Larry R. Bowman, Columbus DHQ, was honored by the Ohio House of Representatives on December 14, 2011, for his service as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps and Reserve and the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

In May 2005, Tpr. Bowman was serving as a sergeant with the 3rd Platoon, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines, 4th Marine Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom when he was wounded in the line of duty, suffering extensive injuries to his lower leg.

After rehabilitation efforts and just before he was to return to work with the Patrol, Tpr. Bowman's personal vehicle was hit in an intersection. The injuries from that crash ultimately resulted in the amputation of his leg below the knee.

During the Statehouse ceremony, Colonel John Born related to members of the House that instead of accepting a disability retirement, Tpr. Bowman worked diligently to return to active duty with the Patrol. In doing so, Tpr. Bowman became the first trooper with a prosthetic limb in the Division's history.

During his recovery and in the time since his injury, he has been active with the Wounded Warrior Program, which provides programs and services to severely injured service members during the time between active duty and transition to



Tpr. Larry R. Bowman received a standing ovation from members of the Ohio House of Representatives after receiving a House Resolution in his honor. From left: Tpr. Bowman's wife, Nikki; son, Matthew; Tpr. Bowman; and Colonel John Born.

civilian life. He is also a member of the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Military Committee and serves with the department's Veteran Mentoring Program.

See the video

Video from the presentation can be viewed at www.ohiochannel.org (search for Larry Bowman) or by scanning this QR code with your smart phone.



Wilmington District



Tpr. Jeremy Grillot explains friction measurement to students attending Tech Fest in Dayton.

Sgt. Charles R. Scales, southwest crash reconstruction supervisor, and Tpr. Jeremy J. Grillot, Southwest Motorcycle Unit, participated as exhibitors at Tech Fest, an event hosted by the Affiliate Societies Council of Dayton. The two-day event was held February 17-18, 2012, at Sinclair Community College in Dayton. The event attracted more than 5,000 attendees including 3,300 elementary and secondary school students.

Many different organizations represented their occupations and industry in support of science, technology, engineering and math. This was the third time Sgt. Scales participated in the event. He and Tpr. Grillot displayed the tools used for crash reconstruction and conducted interactive experiments designed to teach the physics and math used to determine vehicle speeds. The officers also passed out recruitment information.

Canine Units Update



K9 Rita, retired January 16, 2012, after more than seven years of service with her handler Tpr. Shaun Smart, Southwest Regional Criminal Patrol. K9 Rita and Tpr. Smart were responsible for the detection of millions of dollars in illegal narcotics, U.S. currency and other contraband in her time with the Division.



K9 Diego, Northeast Regional Criminal Patrol, retired December 4, 2011, after his handler, Tpr. Joel Smith, earned a promotion to sergeant. K9 Diego and Tpr. Smith were responsible for removing drugs and other contraband valued at more than \$3 million from Ohio roadways. They assisted in hundreds of patrol and narcotic-related calls

and also apprehended several suspects after patrol-related tracking calls, including a burglary suspect who was tracked from the scene of the burglary to a residence where he was arrested by local police.



K9 Roy, Northwest Regional Criminal Patrol, retired in October 2011. K9 Roy, and his handler, Tpr. Gary Wolfe, were used by the Patrol and also by federal and local law enforcement agencies upon request. During K9 Roy's eight-year tenure with the Patrol, he was involved in the initiation of more than 250 criminal case investigations resulting

in the seizure of large quantities of narcotics, currency and

counterfeit merchandise valued at approximately \$2 million.



K9 Ali, an explosive detection canine assigned to Central Regional Criminal Patrol, retired in September 2011 after more than four years of service with his handler, Tpr. Tami Getz. Assigned to the Statehouse, K9 Ali was recognized statewide by law enforcement, the Columbus Fire Department Bomb Squad, DEA, Secret Service and FBI for his keen detection abilities. He received second place for Indoor Searches at the 2010 USPCA Trials. K9 Ali provided security service for many high-profile details including President Obama's 2007 campaign visit. K9 Ali, popular with members of the Ohio legislature for his friendly demeanor, was honored for his service by Senator Tom Sawyer.



K9 Johnny, Northeast Regional Criminal Patrol, retired July 14, 2011, after his handler, Tpr. Rick Menges, earned a promotion to sergeant. K9 Johnny and Tpr. Menges assisted in hundreds of narcotic and patrol-related calls. Johnny's patrol tracking capabilities led to the apprehension of several suspects. On one occasion, Tpr. Menges and K9 Johnny were

called to search for a missing person in Summit County. The wooded area had been searched for hours by multiple officers with no success, but Tpr. Menges and K9 Johnny located the subject within 30 minutes. Tpr. Menges and K9 Johnny also recovered more than \$12 million in narcotics and other assets over the course for his Patrol career.

Canton



Members of the Canton Post played in a charity basketball game and delivered a traffic safety message at Jackson Memorial Middle School on November 4, 2011. From left: Joel Smith, Dave Garber, Cory Harris, Ray Durant, Alan Dunbar, Tim Dearnitt, John Thorne, Carlos Smith, Bruce Zuchowski and William Weirtz.

Wilmington District



Troopers from District 8 (and one from District 5) participated in the Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics at Caesar Creek State Park on January 28, 2012. From left: Christina Hayes, Jeffrey Crook, Steven Duteil, Rachel Simmons, Emily Jones, Jim Slusher and his son, Nick Slusher.



Barry W. Donley

Staff Lieutenant Barry W. Donley, Cambridge District Headquarters, retired January 6, 2012, after 33 years of service. He is a member of the 105th Academy Class.



Bryan D. Pack

Trooper Bryan D. Pack, Jackson District LCS, retired February 6, 2012, after 26 years of service. He is a member of the 115th Academy Class.



Chester L. Engle

Staff Lieutenant Chester L. Engle, Warren District Headquarters, retired March 2, 2012, after 30 years of service. He is a member of the 111th Academy Class.



Bernard Parron

Electronic Technician 1 Bernard Parron, General Headquarters, retired February 29, 2012, after 15 years of service.



Brian W. Girts

Staff Lieutenant Brian W. Girts, Warren District Headquarters, retired December 30, 2011, after 33 years of service. He is a member of the 106th Academy Class.



David R. Sutton

Motor Carrier Enforcement Supervisor David R. Sutton, Cambridge District, retired March 30, 2012, after 30 years of service.



Gregory A. McKeever

Sergeant Gregory A. McKeever, Chillicothe, retired December 30, 2011, after 24 years of service. He is a member of the 116th Academy Class.



Steven C. Johnson

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Steven C. Johnson, Cambridge District, retired February 10, 2012, after 26 years of service.



Gary R. Thompson

Sergeant Gary R. Thompson, LEADS, retired January 3, 2012, after 35 years of service. He is a member of the 104th Academy Class.



Robert K. Kernik

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Robert K. Kernik, Cambridge District, retired February 29, 2012, after 25 years of service.



Jeniffer L. Hilderbrandt

Trooper Jeniffer L. Hilderbrandt, Xenia, entered disability retirement on December 16, 2011, after 18 years of service. She is a member of the 125th Academy Class.



Blaine M. Decker

Dispatcher Blaine M. Decker, Canton, retired February 29, 2012, after 21 years of service.

OSHP RETIREMENTS



Wanda L. Mitchell

Dispatcher Wanda L. Mitchell, Delaware, retired December 31, 2011, after 14 years of service.



Shirley A. Allen

Driver Examiner 1 Shirley A. Allen, Lancaster Exam Station, retired January 31, 2012, after 30 years of service.



George A. Smith

Dispatcher George A. Smith, Sandusky, retired December 31, 2011, after 26 years of service.



Julie A. Smith

Program Administrator 2 Julie A. Smith, Fleet Management, retired January 3, 2012, after 28 years of service.

OSHP RETIREE NEWS

HPRS Strategic Planning Meeting

On February 8, 2012, the Highway Patrol Retirement System conducted the first in a series of Strategic Planning meetings at the Academy. The Strategic Planning meetings are encompassing numerous impactful issues effecting the HPRS Retirement System. Both sworn personnel and retirees attending the sessions have a vested interest in the outcome of these meetings. Additional meetings were scheduled for March.



Arizona mini-reunion

On January 14, 2012, retired S/Lt. Don Anweiler and his wife, Norma, hosted the annual "Aztec Bird" retiree reunion for Patrol retirees and friends in the Phoenix, Ariz., area.

Twenty-four retirees, family members, friends of the Patrol and active members met in Mesa, Ariz., for brunch, friendship and updates from Ohio.

Captain Brigette E. Charles, Academy Commandant, gave an update on current Patrol events. Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Thomas P. Charles reinforced the positive support both the Patrol and the Retirement System maintain from the governor and the General Assembly.

Retirement System Trustee Darryl L. Anderson gave an update on pending "pension reform" legislation and the status of the Highway Patrol Retirement System health care fund.



From left: Sgt. Gene Hughes, Lt. Al Kinney, Major D. L. Anderson, Milan Carnes (77th Academy Class), Lt. Col. & Director T. P. Charles, S/Lt. Don Anweiler, Colonel K. B. Marshall, Captain B. E. Charles, Tpr. Ken Tyson, Lt. Jeff Waseman, Sgt. Mike Katafiasz, Tpr. Roger Stinard and Sgt. D. D. Patterson.

History is recorded by individuals known as historians. However it is actually written by the lives which individuals live, by the trials and troubles endured, and the victories over the adversities won by courageous and committed people. There was a man by the name of Moses who faced what seemed to be impossible odds but he persevered and, acting as a agent of God, he led his people out of captivity to the edge of a promised land in which they would live in freedom. Then came Joshua who took over from Moses and led the people across the Jordan River where the various tribes settled and worked through challenges until they united as a nation. Two great leaders—but the actual history was written by the people who responded, struggled, and persevered in handing down to their children a rich heritage. Yes, the historian recorded the events but it was a living history before it could be recorded.

Since November of 1933, there have been many individuals—known first as Patrolmen and later as Troopers—who have been writing the history of the Ohio State Highway Patrol by the very way they have served the public in this great State of Ohio. Some lost their lives because they responded to a call for

help when conditions on the roadways were not good. Some were injured by the careless acts of others. Many went out of the way to help a distressed motorist along the highway.

Many have pushed themselves to obtain extra training in order to be better equipped to identify and remove the criminal element which robs the public of good life. It is a living history which has taken place since the birth of the Patrol. It is a living history which continues to be written by everyone connected with the Patrol—sworn officer and civilian alike.

New techniques and marvelous technology have enhanced the function of the Patrol but there is still that personal commitment on the part of each one which enables the history to be recorded with notations of victory and success. Whenever an individual tends to feel unimportant in the scheme of things it seems to me that there needs to be a remembrance of the shepherd boy named David. He went up to see how the “big fellows” in the Army of Israel were doing against the Philistine Army. He discovered that everything was at a stand still because of the threat of the giant Goliath. One big giant against one simple shepherd boy. But the actions of



David with his courage and willingness to do what he could with his slingshot has become the history of victory.

You are writing the history of the Patrol each day by what you do and how you do it. May the historians be able to record an exciting chapter for the year 2012.

Respectfully,

Richard D. Ellsworth

Richard D. Ellsworth
Chaplain

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