

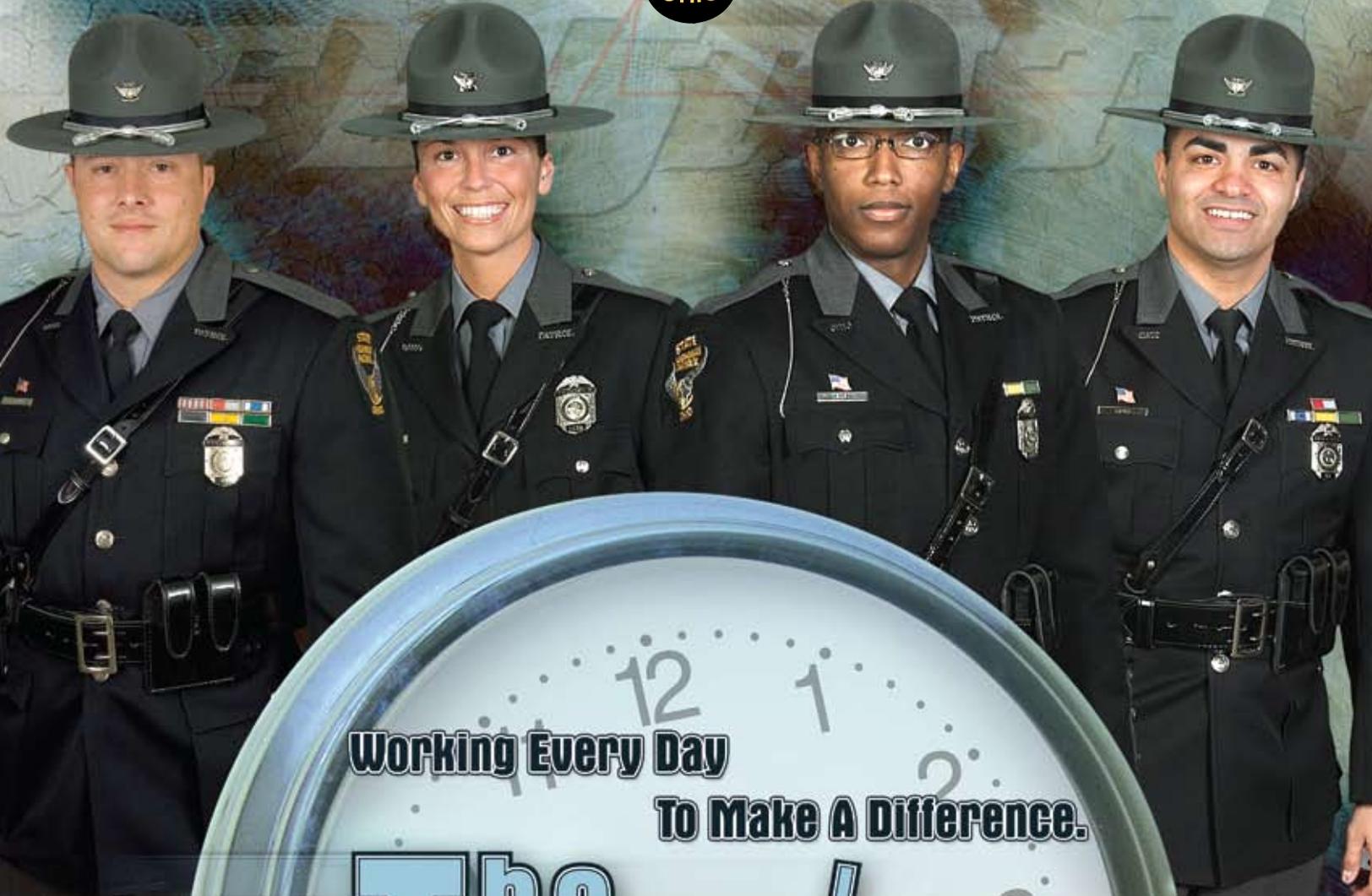
FLYING

Vol. 45 No. 3



WHEEL

September - December 2007



Working Every Day

To Make A Difference.

The 24/7

Initiative

It's What We Do.





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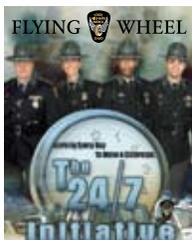
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Giving thanks for those called to law enforcement



On the Cover

"LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative" is a new operational direction for how the Patrol will achieve success in traffic safety while making Ohio communities safe places for families and businesses to thrive. Please see page 13 for a special interview with Colonel Richard Collins about the new initiative and his vision for the Patrol into the future.



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Director, Department of Public Safety

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The "Flying Wheel" is published by the Office of Strategic Services in the interest of the entire Highway Patrol family.

I would like to think that I am a charter member of the Sara Winfield fan club. Three years ago, Sara's husband, Brandy, was shot and killed on State Route 423 south of Marion. Brandy, a Marion County Sheriff's Deputy, picked up a man who was walking away from a disabled van, and they headed for Marion to obtain aid. The man, who had an active felony warrant in Delaware County, pulled out a weapon and shot Brandy. The suspect was apprehended a few days later and is now serving time for Brandy's murder.

Sara spoke about her husband at his funeral in front of family, friends, and hundreds of police officers, deputies, and troopers. I admired her strength and her conviction. She did not focus on the circumstances of Brandy's death, but instead, she chose to tell stories about his life and the wonderful times they shared together, along with their two young sons.

Soon after Brandy's death, Sara became involved with the Ohio Chapter of the Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) and is currently serving as the organization's president. COPS helped Sara get through the many difficult days she faced three years ago. Like so many others who have lost loved ones in the law enforcement profession, Sara has chosen to help others faced with the same difficult realities she faced three years ago.

On November 3, at Sara's invitation, I attended the COPS Blue Light Remembrance held at the Renaissance Hotel in Columbus. Over 150 survivors and friends were in attendance. Brenda and I sat with Jennifer Holland and her family. Also attending the dinner were Connie Holcomb and Bridget Risner, along with their families and friends. After dinner, we all walked to the Police and Fire Memorial a few blocks away. Following the reading of the names of officers lost the previous year, the trees surrounding the memorial were lighted, mostly in blue, to honor those we all miss.

During the holiday season, it is important for all of us to remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice, along with the families and friends who still mourn their loss. Across the country, families will be placing blue lights around their homes as part of their holiday decorations to show their support for all of us in the law enforcement profession. For Sara, Jennifer, Connie, Bridget, and all who have lost someone, I ask you to consider doing the same.



Colonel Richard H. Collins
Superintendent



During the holiday season, it is important for all of us to remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

Division mourns

Trooper Jack 'Pat' Holland dies following yellow jacket sting

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is mourning the loss of Tpr. Jack "Pat" Holland, 45, a Salvage Inspector for the Massillon District, who died August 21 after being stung by a yellow jacket.

Tpr. Holland was conducting salvage inspections at the Seville CDL Facility in Medina County. After returning to his desk at about 1:00 p.m., he was stung by a yellow jacket and suffered a severe reaction.

"This is a tragic loss for the Patrol Family. Our thoughts and prayers are with Tpr. Holland's family and friends," Colonel Richard Collins said.

Tpr. Holland, a 20-year veteran of the Division, began his career in April 1987 as a member of the 116th Academy Class, and earned his commission in Septem-

ber of that year.

He served at the Findlay, Sandusky, Elyria, and Ashland posts before transferring to Massillon District Headquarters as a salvage inspector in September 2003. In 2004, he earned the district's Trooper Recognition Award.

Tpr. Holland was born September 11, 1961, in Chattahoochee, Georgia. He graduated from Wellington High School in 1979.

He was a member of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Lodi. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed woodworking.

Tpr. Holland is survived by his wife, Jennifer, and children: Sabrina, 14; Alexis, 10; and John, 8. His father is retired Staff Lieutenant Jack Holland.

A celebration of Tpr. Holland's life was held August 25 in Seville.



Trooper Jack P. Holland
September 11, 1961 – August 21, 2007

Online Crash Scene Investigation education program unveiled

By Sgt. Toby Smith

A Hilliard Davidson High School forensics class participated in a demonstration of a new online program, *Crash Scene Investigation*, to educate students on how math and science take part in motor vehicle crash scene investigations. The program was created by the non-profit organization, Edheads, and was demonstrated during a media event on September 27.

"The Edheads online activity gives students an opportunity to conduct a crash scene investigation," said Gail Wheatley, executive director of Edheads. "The program's scenario is an easy and fun way for students to learn mathematics and physics as they pertain to crash investigations and the lethal forces that come in to play in high speed crashes. We hope students will begin to understand these forces and the activity will hopefully save some lives."

The program takes students through every process that an officer completes during a crash investigation – from measuring skid marks to mathematical calculations to interview-

ing witnesses.

Another application available on the site allows the participant to input speed and impairment variables to assess how those variables may change investigatory outcomes.

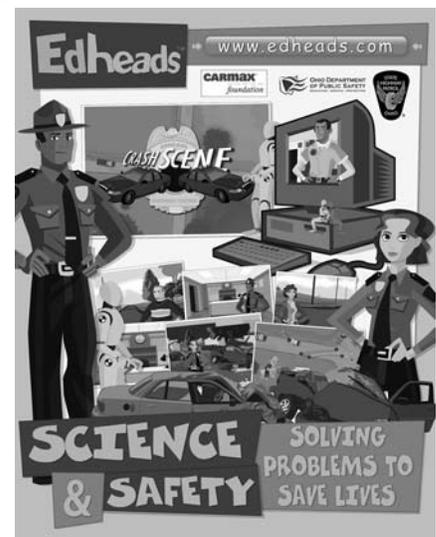
Although Edheads activities are available to anyone in the world with Internet access, the crash activity features methods that closely resemble those used by Ohio troopers.

The Patrol's involvement in the project included helping Edheads developers research, design, and test activities. The Crash Reconstruction Unit provided technical support and consultation on the crash investigation process.

Math and science teachers from Hilliard City Schools also assisted Edheads in the development of the content for the site.

"I think it's important to show students how the lessons they learn in the classroom apply to real-world scenarios. The Edheads program does that," said Lauren Smith, a teacher at Hilliard Davidson High School.

In addition to the new crash scene



investigation program, the Edheads Web site, <http://statepatrol.ohio.gov/edheads.htm>, offers activities ranging from virtual hip or knee replacement surgery to weather and simple machines.

The CarMax Foundation provided a grant to Edheads for the majority of the funding to make the program possible. The CarMax Foundation is supported by CarMax Inc.

Patrol Crime Lab, Ohio Attorney General promote *CSI: The Experience*

By Sgt. Toby Smith

The Patrol's Crime Lab, in conjunction with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, participated on August 20 in promoting Center Of Science and Industry's (COSI) newest exhibit, *CSI: The Experience*, due to open the summer of 2008.

From DNA and firearms analysis to forensic anthropology and toxicology, visitors will be immersed in hands-on-science in an exciting multi-media environment with dazzling special effects direct from the CSI TV series on CBS. Cast members from the TV show lead visitors through the experience via video and even evaluate their crime-solving savvy as they exit.

"Building on the incredibly popular CSI series, the exhibit will attract visitors into the world of forensic science in a way they have never experienced before," said Sarah Rogers, Vice President of Experience at COSI.

During the August 20 promotional event, visitors peaked inside the Patrol's Mobile Crime Scene Response Unit. Captain J.D. Brink and Lt. Kevin Brun gave tours to more than 600 spectators, explaining how critical evidence is processed and collected in the field. Plus, young visitors learned about career opportunities in the forensic science field within the Patrol.

The Attorney General's Office fingerprinted children for free at COSI and parents received a wallet size Child ID



Lt. Kevin Brun, Crime Lab, shows visitors some of the features of the Patrol's Mobile Crime Scene Response Unit as part of the *CSI: The Experience* exhibit at the Center of Science and Industry (COSI) in Columbus.

Card which would aid law enforcement should their child ever go missing. Also, parents received a CD with their child's personal information and fingerprints that can be routinely updated as their child grows.

CSI: The Experience was developed by the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History with support from CBS and "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation." The exhibition was funded in part by the National Science Foundation.

Patrol reports success in Cuyahoga

Troopers cited 592 aggressive drivers and assisted 211 motorists during the month-long Cuyahoga County Metropolitan Initiative (CCMI) which ran from October 15 through November 16. During the initiative, which was aimed at reducing fatal and injury crashes in urban areas, troopers issued 2,266 citations.

"Through cooperative state and local law enforcement efforts we are seeing successes in Cuyahoga County," Colonel Richard Collins, Patrol superintendent said. "This law enforcement goal is to improve traffic safety and the quality of life for people using Cuyahoga County's roadways."

The CCMI employed high-visibility enforcement, multi-agency OVI deterrence, and a strategic public information campaign to promote traffic safety on Cuyahoga County roads. This initiative followed after a successful two-week initiative in July that produced 83 aggressive driving arrests, 14 OVI arrests and 586 citations.

The CCMI was developed last year because Cuyahoga County had the most fatal crashes among all Ohio counties, with 68 motorists killed.

In addition to the effort in Cuyahoga County, the Patrol also teamed with the Cincinnati Police Department for the Cincinnati Metropolitan Area Initiative (CMAI) from October 4 through December 23. Results of the CMAI will be reported in the next *Flying Wheel*.

New Bowling Green Post unveiled



Citizens in Wood County enjoyed touring the new Bowling Green Post at an open house on August 10.

Wood County citizens were treated to a behind the scenes look at the Patrol's new Bowling Green Post on August 10. The event marked the culmination of a construction project that began last year.

With the benefit of a new facility with new equipment, the officers and professional staff at the Bowling Green Post now have the tools to help them best serve Wood County. The former Wood County post was located in Walbridge.

Patrol and MADD combine forces to combat impaired drivers

By Sgt. Toby Smith

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Ohio and Ohio law enforcement agencies kicked off a major drunk driving enforcement initiative on August 23, hosted by the Columbus Department of Health, as part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) national crackdown: *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*

The timing for the enforcement initiative was significant because Labor Day, a holiday celebrated throughout the nation with parties and parades, has unfortunately become notorious as a day when thousands of drivers make the deadly decision to drive impaired.

"In 2006, nearly 40 percent of traffic fatalities in Ohio were alcohol-related," warned Lt. Colonel William Costas. "We want those who choose to drive impaired, and put innocent people in danger this weekend, to know state troopers, and literally thousands of other Ohio law enforcement officers along with our safety partners, are committed to making this a safe holiday for

Ohio families, and those who are safely using our public roadways."

The event's keynote speaker, Nicole Leasure, stole the hearts of the attendees. Nicole lost her sister, Caitlin, 20, and Caitlin's boyfriend, Morgan, on a trip back to Otterbein College in Westerville on March 26, 2006, after spending spring break with his parents in Florida. A repeat drunk driver driving the wrong way on I-95 hit their vehicle head-on while near Port Wentworth, Ga. Four vehicles were involved in the crash.

"Caitlin's life was cut short," said Nicole. "She died because someone deliberately made a decision that night to choose to drink and then chose to drive impaired." Nicole hopes that her story will serve as a reminder when party plans are being made.

"Situations like Nicole's are so unfortunate because they are completely preventable. The solution is clear: Aggressive enforcement of impaired driving laws reduces the number of injuries and deaths caused by drunk driving," said Cathey Wise, Vice President of



Nicole Leasure holds the only lasting memory she has of her sister, Caitlin, who was killed by a drunk driver.

Programs, MADD. "Together we can eliminate drunk driving in Ohio."

Major Christopher Minter, Field Operations, spoke at a similar MADD event on November 15 to promote OVI-awareness for the period from Thanksgiving through the New Year's holiday.

Alert driver examiners demonstrate ability to detect, prevent fraud

Two recent incidents from our driver license exam stations show how driver license examiners can provide a critical level of defense against criminals attempting to obtain fraudulent identification.

On August 31, DX1 John Slack prevented a suspect from obtaining a fraudulent motorcycle license at the Delaware DX. The suspect said he had passed his motorcycle test at the Alum Creek location, but the permit had never been sealed off.

The suspect presented his temporary permit and scoring sheet to DX Slack and stated that he had passed his written test at the Hilliard DX and the skills tests at Alum Creek. DX Slack noted that the permit showed the suspect took the skills test at the Hilliard DX, which was the opposite of what the suspect said.

In addition, the permit showed the suspect took the skills test on August 22. DX Slack knew that no skills tests

were administered at Hilliard on that date because of rain.

DX Slack called a supervisor and asked her to check the sign-in sheets for August 22 to confirm that no skills tests were given at Hilliard that day. He then checked the suspect's name in the computer to see if and when he had made his appointments.

The suspect made just one appointment on May 11. DX Slack asked the supervisor to check the sign-in sheets for May 11 and found that a failure was recorded for the suspect on that date.

DX Slack contacted the Delaware Post, then told the customer he was checking with the supervisor at the Alum Creek station and it would be just a few minutes. When a trooper arrived and asked the suspect what was going on, the man admitted to fixing the dates and the scores on his score



John Slack



Daryl Colvin

sheet and permit.

Also recently, a suspect arrived at the Sharonville DX to obtain a commercial driver's license. When he presented his temporary permit, DX1 Daryl Colvin noticed the air brake score had been altered. In fact, the suspect had received a failing air brake score the previous day.

DX Colvin contacted Cincinnati Operations. The responding trooper questioned the suspect, who refused to cooperate and was placed under arrest.

Statewide Auxiliary Training



Auxiliary officers received training in felony stops during their annual Statewide Training.

During two sessions on October 6 and 27, Auxiliary officers from every district in the state attended the 2007 Statewide Auxiliary Training at the Patrol Training Academy in Columbus. Attending officers received training in weapons simulations, felony stops, and ethics. In addition, official portraits were taken for the 75th anniversary yearbook.

Thanks to the Academy Staff for providing excellent instructors and facilities. Special thanks to Chris Vincenty, Human Resource Management, for conducting the ethics training.

Gore completes Northwestern's SPSC

Lt. Michael Gore, Ironton post commander, graduated from the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University. He completed the 10-week program in Evanston, Illinois, on December 7.

The School of Police Staff and Command provides upper-level college instruction in areas including management, organizational behavior, human resources for law enforcement, and budgeting.

Gore is a member of the Patrol's 116th Academy Class. He has been with the Patrol for 21 years.



Michael Gore

Thompson earns master's degree

Lt. William Thompson, commander of the Warren District LCS unit, graduated from Geneva College on May 18 with a Master of Science in organizational leadership.

Lt. Thompson trained with the 109th Academy Class. He has 29 years of service.



William Thompson

Retired Colonel McClellan receives 2007 Martha Irwin Service Award

Retired Colonel Paul McClellan recently received the 2007 Martha Irwin Distinguished Service Award for Highway Safety from the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA). He was recognized for consistently demonstrating qualities that advanced a safer highway agenda which reduced serious crashes, injuries and fatalities.

In receiving the national award, it was noted Colonel McClellan provided leadership towards safer highways nationally and in Ohio. His association with AAMVA began with his appointment to the AAMVA Police Traffic Services Committee in 1995. He served on a variety of AAMVA committees during his career and promoted AAMVA's mission and goals to many of the Patrol's highway safety partners.

Colonel McClellan is known nationally for working to reduce traffic crash deaths. Among his many accomplishments, he is internationally recognized for the *LifeStat 1.0* program, which was recognized as one of the 10 best law enforcement initiatives in the United States. Since its inception, the *LifeStat 1.0* concept has been closely studied and implemented by numerous state and international law enforcement agencies.

LifeStat 1.0 resulted in a remarkable six percent reduction in crash fatalities during 2006 – the lowest number of traffic crash deaths in Ohio in the past 70 years. This is especially impressive considering the Ohio State Highway Patrol is nearly last in the nation for troopers per population, registered vehicles, and vehicle miles traveled.

The AAMVA Martha Irwin Distinguished Service Award for Highway Safety is presented annually to an individual, organization, or jurisdiction whose primary function is highway and traffic safety, and who has made a significant impact to improve highway safety and the reduction of fatalities. The award is named in recognition of former AAMVA Chair, Martha Irwin, and her focus on highway safety. The selection committee for this award is made up of nationwide law enforcement personnel, motor vehicle administrators, past winners of the award, and highway safety managers.

Sworn Promotions

Sergeant Martina Jackson, Mansfield
Sergeant Chad Miller, Investigative Services

Professional Promotions

DX1 Nicholas George, Lima DX
FISCSPC2 Kristina Grooms, Fiscal Services
RSCHR3 Robert Rauch, Strategic Services
DX1 Loretta Murray, Huber Heights DX
FORCOMPSP2 John Ferguson, Investigative Services
DX1 David Frank, Huber Heights DX
Sec. Rachel Ray, Investigative Services
DX1 Pamela Miller, Delaware Post

Ace Award

Tpr. David Brown, Dayton, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$26,000 and apprehended six suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

His third recovery came when he stopped the suspect vehicle for an equipment violation. The driver was arrested for driving under suspension and was subsequently found in possession of crack cocaine. Her passenger was arrested on an active felony warrant for robbery through Montgomery County.



David Brown

When their location was confirmed, the stolen vehicle was recovered, and both teens were taken into custody and ultimately reunited with their families.

Tpr. Joshua Hunter, Georgetown, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$60,500 and apprehended four suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

Two of his recoveries, including a full-size school bus, were related to one case. After responding to the scene of a single vehicle crash, Tpr. Hunter found the stolen school bus unoccupied. Later that same morning, the suspect's father reported an unknown pickup truck on his property. Tpr. Hunter discovered that vehicle had been reported stolen earlier in the morning. During Tpr. Hunter's investigation, the juvenile suspect confessed to the theft of both vehicles.



Joshua Hunter

Tpr. Eric Caudill, West Jefferson, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$21,500 and apprehended nine suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

His third recovery was a Ford minivan valued at \$5,000. Tpr. Caudill stopped the vehicle for multiple traffic violations. The suspect driver, age 15, had no driver license and did not have the owner's permission to have the vehicle. Four other juvenile suspects, ages 14 and 15, were also taken into custody without incident.



Eric Caudill

Tpr. Daniel Jesse, Ashtabula, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$130,100 and apprehended five suspects to earn the Ace Award.

He made his second recovery after stopping the suspect vehicle for not having a front license plate. A LEADS check revealed the driver was wanted on a warrant through the Middlefield Police Department. The driver was taken into custody without incident. Contact with the vehicle's owner revealed that the suspect did not have permission to have the vehicle.



Daniel Jesse

Tpr. Danny Howard, Gallipolis, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$31,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

Three of his recoveries came after he located vehicles that had previously been reported stolen. In one instance involving a teen runaway, Tpr. Howard was able to determine the girl's whereabouts and arrange to be contacted when the girl and her boyfriend made contact with the boy's mother.



Danny Howard

Tpr. Brent Johnson, Piqua, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$47,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn the second Ace Award of his career.

Two of his recoveries came after one investigation. *—Continued on next page.*

Certificate of Recognition

Tpr. Harley Steppenbacker, Medina, received a Certificate of Recognition for his quick actions to save a neighbor from a burning garage.

On July 28, Tpr. Steppenbacker was off-duty when he heard an explosion in his neighbor's garage. Tpr. Steppenbacker ran toward the resulting fire and found his neighbor, engulfed in flames,

staggering from the garage.

Tpr. Steppenbacker grabbed the man and rolled him on the ground to put out the flames, then pulled the man further away from the fire just before the fuel tank of a vehicle in the garage exploded. He continued to provide comfort and aid to the victim until emergency medical personnel arrived on the scene.



Harley Steppenbacker

Ace Award continued

An earlier broadcast advised that two vehicles had been stolen from a residence in Piqua. While on patrol, Tpr. Johnson observed one of the vehicles and initiated a traffic stop. He took two suspects into custody and found an ignition key for the second vehicle where the suspect passenger had been sitting. The suspect then admitted to the theft of the second vehicle and told Tpr. Johnson its location.



Brent Johnson

Tpr. Raul Melo, West Jefferson, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$33,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.



Raul Melo

Three of his recoveries came after routine traffic stops. In each instance, Tpr. Melo discovered that the suspect driver did not have the owner's permission to have the vehicle. One of the suspects was also arrested for OVI and found to be in possession of cocaine and marijuana.

Tpr. Stephen Murphy, Canfield, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$8,200 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.



Stephen Murphy

He made his second recovery after stopping the suspect vehicle for following too close. Upon making contact with the driver, Tpr. Murphy noted a small child, later determined to be the suspect's

granddaughter, sitting unrestrained in the front passenger seat. The driver, who was under the influence of alcohol and driving with a suspended license, also admitted to taking the vehicle without the owner's permission. The vehicle was released to its owner, who also took custody of the child.

Tpr. Phet Phong, Dayton, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$24,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.



Phet Phong

Three of his recoveries came after routine registration checks while on patrol returned as active stolen entries. In each instance, Tpr. Phong confirmed the stolen entries, and then waited for back up before initiating a traffic stop. He then took each suspect into custody without incident.

Tpr. Gene Samson, Bowling Green, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$183,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn the fifth Ace Award of his career.



Gene Samson

On September 5, he recovered a tractor and trailer worth \$140,000. A trucking company in Nebraska contacted the Bowling Green Post to report that they were tracking one of their vehicles in the area after it had been taken by its driver without permission. With assistance from the company, Tpr. Samson located the vehicle, then stopped it and took the driver into custody without incident.

101st is 'Over the Hill'

The nine remaining members of the 101st Academy Class were honored with the Over the Hill Award at a luncheon at the Academy on September 21. The award is presented to officers who achieve 30 years of service.

From left: S/Lt. Thomas Tornabene, Major Peyton Watts, Tpr. Raymond Joseph, Tpr. John Oliver, Tpr. Robin Stotzer, Tpr. William Dean, Tpr. Gregory Cunningham, Capt. Clarke Kiner, and Major Christopher Minter.



Executive Protection Unit

A little background on the officers in the background

By Michele Vaughan, Patrol Historian

Keeping tabs 24 hours a day on Ohio’s governor, his family, and others in state legislature is no easy task. Just ask Sgt. Harry Schwind, 1972 Patrol Academy graduate, who presently works for the Division’s Investigative Unit. At the time of his graduation, he was one of a handful of officers occasionally sent to then-Governor John J. Gilligan’s home for “201” detail, or protective duty. He said Gilligan requested Patrolmen “as needed” during his time in office, from 1971-1975.

Schwind said the first detail officially assigned to provide security was for Governor Michael DiSalle before he left office and continued in 1964 after Ohioans elected Governor James A. Rhodes the first time. These officers were part of the Patrol’s Investigations Unit and served under the leadership of Colonel Anson B. Cook.

At the time Schwind was assigned to the unit, he said three people were assigned to Gilligan to protect him and his family and organize security at different events. Captain John W. Rohal was in charge of the detail after Gilligan became governor. James Solt served as the commander of the governor’s security for Gov. James A. Rhodes, who served a second period in office from 1975 to 1983. Officers Vernon Metz and Charles Shipley also were on that detail.

The Division’s EPU, or Executive Protection Unit (called Governor Security in the 1960s), provided protection and related services for the governor. Around the same time, civil disturbances necessitated a more constant security presence at the Statehouse. Schwind said that, often times, in the very early days of guarding the governor, a Patrol vehicle simply parked outside the governor’s residence to give the appearance of being protected. And, with only three or four people assigned to the unit, long hours were not uncommon, he said.

“We all really depended on each other,” Schwind said of the early days. “There wasn’t a lot of radio communication in those days. Things took a lot of planning ahead. But it

seemed easier because it was all planned out ahead of time.”

Later, when Governor Rhodes was elected a second time, officers secured the perimeter of the Rhodes’ family home in Upper Arlington. This not only included a 24-7 watch, but then state-of-the-art infrared light sensors, telling the unit when there was a trespasser at the home of the governor. Many times those “intruders” came in the form of squirrels and other small pests, which created an interesting detail that was never dull, according to Schwind.

Security also accompanied Governor Rhodes wherever he went – speeches, visits overseas, and other events. There was much time spent on the road – ahead of the governor’s arrival, on trips to and from locations, and during events.

Most of the time, things went smoothly; if it was determined that a potentially troublesome person planned to attend an event, someone from the Governor Safety Unit would keep an eye on him or her the entire time.

Information given ahead of time eliminated most potential problems with thorough planning. But there were a few times Schwind said he remembers having to grab Gov. Rhodes by the belt, yank him off a podium and rush him to safety.

“If there was a commotion that wasn’t anticipated, that would happen,” Schwind said, remembering a speech during which Governor Rhodes was whisked away. “Intelligence groups gave us information to eliminate any problems, or about people who were thought to possibly cause problems.”

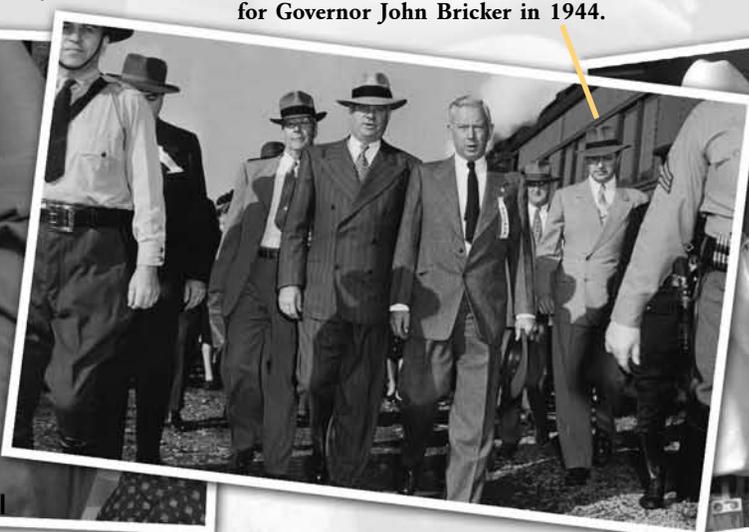
Schwind also said that Executive Protection Unit officers and the governor are closely knit and know that whatever discussions take place en route or in private aren’t to be repeated, even to Patrol officials. “He needed to develop that trust for his own welfare,” he said. “He has to know he can trust you. What’s said in the car stayed in the car.”

Security officers also had to stand their ground against criticism. In the Patrol’s 60th Anniversary History Book, the Governor Security group serving under Colonel Robert M. *—Continued on next page.*

Tpr. Nestor Vincenty with Governor Ted Strickland at an event at Ohio State University.



Ret. Lt. Col. Floyd Moon provided security for Governor John Bricker in 1944.



Tpr. Kari Riebesell at the Ohio State Fair with Governor Strickland.



—Continued from previous page.

Chiaromonte faced from local media some name-calling and doubt of their ability to protect and serve.

“On...many of these occasions, General Headquarters of-ficers were assigned due to their close proximity to the Capital. Dubbed ‘F Troop’ by its own members, they were somewhat chagrined when a news reporter described them as ‘the highest ranking riot squad ever assembled by the Patrol. Eight graying and paunchy Majors, Captains, Lieutenants, and Sergeants.’ Consequently, the graying, paunchy riot squad challenged the younger Statehouse reporters to a volleyball match on March 27, 1968, trouncing them badly in four games.”

Although there are more people in the EPU now (more than a dozen, according to Schwind), the unit operates in much the same way it did back in the early 1960s. Planning, while still imperative to success, does not have to be as precise since the introduction of mobile phones. Instant communication allows for last second changes to itineraries. That type of information relay was cruder in the beginning — officers used hand signals, Schwind said.

Today, travel includes overseas trips and other unusual duties. Sgt. David Durr, who is an officer with the EPU, states in a testimonial on the Division’s Web site: “In 1998, I acquired my current assignment in the Executive Protection Unit (EPU), which has been the most exciting and challenging role for me so far,” Durr wrote. “This position has given me more opportunities that one can even imagine, including being able to travel extensively with the Governor to Japan, Europe, Mexico, and South America. I have accompanied the Governor to two Fiesta Bowls, two presidential conventions, and various inaugural events. I am also responsible for providing security for visiting dignitaries and assisting other security details.”

Although the records show the start of the EPU in 1964, there were times that Patrolmen served as governor security before then, too. They had to take a leave of absence from the Patrol to do it, and it was only at the governor’s request.

Retired Lt. Col. Floyd C. Moon, the Division’s oldest living retiree at 99, remembers several leaves he took to head up governor security, starting as early as 1944.

Lt. Col. Moon, who graduated with the Academy’s Second Class in 1934, accompanied Governor John Bricker (1939-1945) in his efforts for a national office at the end of 1944. Even earlier than that, however, governor escort details included trips to the National Convention of the Republican Party in Chicago.

“A leave of absence apparently was not determined necessary as we were escorting our Governor,” Moon said. “Apparently a different determination was made for the dates indicated for the actual campaigning of our Governor for Vice President of the United States. I was not privy to Colonel (Lynn) Black’s decision in this matter. I only knew that the assignment was made for (Ptl. Carl F.) Strayer and I to look after our Governor (in plain clothes) at the Chicago Convention. Both Governor Tom Dewey of New York and Governor Bricker of Ohio were the leading candidates for President and Vice President.”

In fact, accompanying Bricker to Chicago enabled Lt. Col. Moon to cross paths with a future Ohio governor. “We made contact with the Chicago Police Detective Bureau to check up on the security they were affording the convention, and specifically in regard to our Governor. In doing so, we encountered James Rhodes, who was then Columbus City Auditor, who had been assigned by Bricker to coordinate any necessary handling of traffic.”

Moon recalls that the only problems during these trips were from the press. “The only troubles we had were with occasional drunken writers. Among the 40-some who were on the trip, occasionally I put one off the train. Once I even had to throw off the railroad agent, who handled the details of switching engines as they traveled, when he got drunk. Eventually they would return. My regular job consisted of checking with the local police to see if arrangements were adequate, and as this was mainly a whistle stopping campaign, this involved little work.”

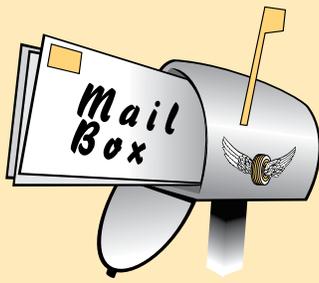
‘First’ list forms first-of-the-year facts

The first of the new year is upon us. Below is a list of different “firsts” from our archives. See how many you remember!

1. Who was the first woman to graduate from the Academy in 1977?
2. Who was the first recipient of the O.W. Merrell Award and what did he do to receive it?
3. What was the name of the first training facility for the Division in 1933?
4. Who was the first African-American to graduate from the Academy in 1955?
5. Who was the first Patrolman of the Year, so honored after the award was developed in 1966?
6. In 1966, who was hired at the Hebron Post as the first female dispatcher for the Patrol?
7. Who received the first Blue Max Award in 1972?
8. Who was the first African-American to apply to the Patrol and attend classes at the Academy, but didn’t actually graduate?

Answers

1. Tpr. Dianne L. Harris; 2. Ptl. Scott B. Radcliffe (later colonel) for diving into an icy canal and holding the head of a tapped motorist out of the water for almost 45 minutes until help arrived; 3. Camp Perry; 4. Ptl. Louis B. Sharp; 5. Ptl. Bill A. Bradley; 6. Dispatcher Virginia Bremer; 7. Trick question - Ptl. R.P. Wells and Ptl. J.E. Spitzer; 8. Sanford Roan.



Every day, in many different ways, troopers make a difference across Ohio

This letter is about one of your troopers, but I am not sure of his identity. On September 30 around 10 p.m., I was just west of Columbus on I-70 near the London exit, when all of a sudden a trooper with lights and sirens passed me. He stopped in the middle of three lanes and shut down the westbound side completely.

After I came to a stop, I saw the trooper run underneath the overpass. I then saw a man standing on the bridge; it appeared to be a suicide attempt. I saw your trooper talking to the man on the bridge, and yelling at officers on the bridge to get back. From what I could see, he had complete control of the situation.

I could see the trooper talking and negotiating with the guy on the bridge. Minutes turned into almost an hour, when I noticed another officer on the bridge standing next to the suspect. I could see your trooper giving directions to both the officer and the suspect.

All of a sudden, several officers pulled the man to safety. I could not hear everything, but I can tell you that your trooper amazed me and others with his bravery and professionalism.

I was astonished that one trooper could shut down three speeding lanes of traffic by himself. Then, he did not hesitate to run underneath the bridge. The most amazing thing was his determination. For almost an hour, he did not stop contact with the guy on the bridge. I could see him talking the entire time. I was exhausted just watching.

Before this incident I thought troopers just wrote tickets and handled crashes. I have a newfound respect for this organization. This trooper not only changed the life of the guy on the bridge, but also everybody who was watching this incident.

Anonymous

Ed. Note: Tpr. Matthew Traywick, West Jefferson, is the officer described above.

A few weeks ago, my husband and I were driving on I-80 when our car had a flat tire. While waiting for someone to arrive, Tpr. Brian DePizzo (Canfield) stopped to ask if we needed assistance.

When he learned that the problem was a flat tire, he suggested that we cancel the service call, then changed the tire himself. Needless to say, we were both surprised and appreciative. His kindness will not be forgotten.

M.J.B.

I am a police officer with the City of Clayton, near Dayton. I was injured in the line of duty chasing a suspect. Tpr. Brent Johnson (Piqua), off duty and on his own time, assisted me with the apprehension.

At the time, I did not get his name, and with my injury (torn ACL and blown cartilage in my knee), I did not have time to thank him for helping me. I was alone and in a lot of pain. Without his assistance, the suspect, who was a sexually-oriented offender, would have most likely gotten away.

It says something about an officer who sees a fellow officer in need and, without thinking of his own safety, jumps in and helps out. I may not ever be able to return to work, but thanks to Tpr. Johnson, I will not have to say I was injured for nothing. We caught the suspect and put him away, which somehow makes it all worth it.

Ofc. J.A. Getter Clayton

On August 3, my wife and I were involved in a traffic accident on the Ohio Turnpike. This accident involved four vehicles and was rather serious. We would like to thank Tpr. Newton!

Not only was he organized, but he was very professional and compassionate to all involved. He also followed up to let us know how the

others were doing (per their request). The Patrol should be proud of the professionalism in the department.

Mark Thigpen

I have never had interaction with a state trooper in all my 44 years. But within the last two weeks I have had the opportunity to be in contact with three! I just want to say that I have never met more professional, intelligent, helpful, kind, and understanding law enforcement personnel. They were just awesome.

Brenda Williams Cleveland

Tpr. Stephens assisted us on September 12 when we ran out of gas on I-71 near Wilmington. He was professional and helpful – a real gentleman – and a credit to the Patrol. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to him.

Peter Eller Cincinnati

I would like to congratulate the trooper who made the heroin bust in Toledo (August 13). Please keep making these busts to get this drug menace off our streets. Congratulations again to the trooper who made this capture and give that K-9 trooper a big soup bone!

Joel Kamm Cleveland

My son has autism and had a temper tantrum at the Ohio State Fair. It was reported that a man was trying to take a child. The troopers who responded were very professional and helped me calm my son down. I would like to thank the officers for responding to the situation quickly.

Brian Oestreich Oak Harbor



The 24/7 Initiative

A New Direction

The Ohio State Highway Patrol will celebrate its 75th Anniversary in 2008 with a new operational direction for how the organization will achieve success in traffic safety, and show value in striving to make Ohio communities a safe place for families and businesses to thrive.

The new direction, called **LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative**, in many ways continues to strategically and operationally return the Highway Patrol to its fundamental beliefs. For nearly three-quarters of a century of service to the citizens of Ohio, and for those who use our state's roads every day, the Ohio State Highway Patrol's goal has not changed.

From those first patrolmen who rolled out of Camp Perry on their motorcycles on November 15, 1933, to today's trooper, the main goal of every Ohio State Highway Patrol employee has been, and continues to be, the reduction of death and injury on Ohio roadways through professional traffic enforcement and education.

Recently Colonel Richard H. Collins, Patrol superintendent, sat down with staff from the Flying Wheel to talk about LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative, and his vision for the Highway Patrol into the future.



24/7 Initiative

Flying Wheel: What is LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative?

Colonel Collins: The Ohio State Highway Patrol's LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative provides a holistic view of the efforts, challenges, and accomplishments of the Division for every hour of every day. The goal of the 24/7 Initiative is to reduce serious traffic crashes and apprehend the criminal element through high-visibility, aggressive traffic enforcement and increased public awareness through the use of the media. The "24/7" moniker lets our people and the public know that we are always working to be the best we can be – 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

FW: How is LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative different from LifeStat 1.0?

Collins: The 24/7 Initiative broadens the scope of the challenges and responsibilities we are facing as an agency. LifeStat 1.0 focused exclusively on the statewide reduction of traffic fatalities based on vehicle miles traveled, or VMT. The new program provides a traffic safety goal based on the past three-year average, which is both easier to explain and understand. Unlike LifeStat 1.0, the 24/7 Initiative is built to embrace criminal enforcement that results from our traffic safety programs, adding value to what troopers do every day. Also, the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system will be utilized to its fullest potential for the first time and dispatchers will be directly related to the overall success of our efforts.

FW: How is LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative the same as LifeStat 1.0?

Collins: First, let me say that the 24/7 Initiative maintains our focus on making Ohio roads the safest possible for travel. That part of the equation does not change. What the 24/7 Initiative does is continues our long-standing philosophy of "looking beyond the traffic stop" to apprehend the criminal element on Ohio roads. We are going to combine focused traffic safety results and criminal patrol success to show the public the value our agency has in keeping Ohio safe.

FW: What are the significant changes being brought to the Patrol with LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative?

Collins: The most obvious thing people will see is we are changing the traffic fatality goal to a four-year, 10 percent reduction by the end of 2011. As far as other changes that I think are going to make a difference, we are increasing the emphasis of criminal patrol activity, reducing case and recap paperwork, and are going to have a greater reliance on CAD data entries to support analysis and geo-mapping of traffic and criminal patrol activity.

FW: What are the three main modules associated with LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative?

Collins: We have broken this new initiative into modules for Traffic Safety, Criminal Patrol, and Real Time Accountability for Increased Value. Also, I want to point out that Operational Dispatching is going to be integral to our success in LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative, and there are some things I would like to say specifically about this topic when we finish discussing each of the three modules.

Traffic Safety Module

FW: What is the new traffic safety goal as part of LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative?

Collins: Let me first say that our ultimate goal in the Ohio State Highway Patrol is not new. Foremost, we should be working every day to reduce serious traffic crashes on Ohio roads. Now, we have a new way to measure our success toward achieving that goal, which is a four-year, 10 percent traffic fatality reduction in Ohio by the end of 2011. Our new direction for traffic safety replaces the existing fatality goal that was tied directly to the number of vehicle miles driven in the state.

FW: What are the benefits of the new traffic safety goal?

Collins: The new goal is finite, and assures that every employee is focused on his or her primary duty of reducing traffic-related deaths in Ohio. The 10 percent reduction in traffic fatalities by the end of 2011 provides clarity and assures we are moving forward in reducing traffic-related deaths in the state. In the past, minor adjustments needed to be made due to the lag in the reporting of vehicle miles traveled. The new goal assures a more timely resolution in reporting progress.

I think there was some confusion and frustration with the original LifeStat 1.0 goal because it was tied directly to the number of vehicle miles driven in a given area. This goal often appeared unattainable in some smaller, rural counties

in the state. By basing the revised goal on the District three-year average, a fairer and balanced distribution of the proposed reductions in traffic fatalities is established.

I also want to note that District staff is being given an unprecedented level of flexibility and tools to reach the goals, with an increased emphasis on local-level solutions to meet the fatality reductions set forth by the Division.

FW: What resources are available to field commanders and personnel through the Office of Strategic Services to aid in reaching the new traffic safety goal?

Collins: Over the last several years, the Office of Strategic Services has provided an increased number of products to assist the field in the prevention of traffic crashes. OSS staff will continue to provide support through GIS mapping, statistical analysis, research, and media relations. District and Post commanders are encouraged to contact OSS for assistance in developing new initiatives to increase traffic safety in their jurisdictions.

FW: What is the value of the Traffic Safety Module that you want Patrol personnel to understand?

Collins: The Traffic Safety Module provides a more holistic understanding of the job of the Ohio State Highway Patrol and assures that traffic safety remains at the forefront of our mission. The module provides a clear, absolute goal for each employee to work towards, and assures that the entire agency remains focused on reducing traffic-related deaths in all areas of the state.



Criminal Patrol Module

FW: What is the criminal patrol goal as part of the LifeStat 24/7 Initiative?

Collins: We are going to utilize our effective traffic enforcement to apprehend criminals on Ohio roads. The Criminal Patrol Module provides an avenue for us to report successes associated with identifying and apprehending criminals. The ability to analyze and capture all the illegal activity is a major challenge for the Patrol, but improvements in data collection will benefit both our field operations and investigative services functions. These improvements will allow us to effectively communicate all the popular yet under-reported services that are being provided to the citizens of the state.

FW: How do you expect this goal will be achieved?

Collins: The Criminal Patrol Module requires improvements in data capture in both our CAD and Records Information Management System (RIMS). Some minor adjustments in reporting will allow us to capture vital information which will help improve operations and allow us to communicate our successes more effectively to the public.

Over the last several years, location-based information has improved our ability to target high crash areas of the state through improved data capturing and the introduction of GIS mapping. In 2006, these resources along with the incredible efforts of our troopers culminated in the safest Ohio roads in the past 70 years.

Similar to our increased ability to identify high crash areas more effectively, the introduction of location-based criminal information will assist us in aggressively pursuing areas of increased illegal activity. While we have successfully utilized a limited number of short-term Multi-Agency Police Saturations to increase traffic safety and maximize criminal patrol operations in areas of the state, the ability to geo-locate all our criminal arrests will assist us in criminal enforcement efforts. Troopers, during routine patrols, will now have the ability and emphasis to more effectively focus on Ohio roads that are utilized by criminals.

FW: What specific improvements are related to the CAD system?

Collins: We are improving our data capture capabilities. Through the improvement of data capture in the CAD system, we can move away from the traditional "pen and paper" data collection and reporting systems for specific areas within Patrol operations.

The fundamental basis for the collection of all Patrol activity is quickly moving towards the CAD system. Every CAD entry will have a unique incident number that references all of the activities associated with a particular event.

We are also using the location-based information captured by the CAD incident numbers for showing Signal 75 (Felony Warrants) and Signal 76 (Misdemeanor Warrants) dispositions, criminal activity entered via CAD ORC field which helps standardize specific enforcement recaps.



FW: What new resource information will be available to support the Criminal Patrol Module?

Collins: As with any new initiative, we plan to disperse quality information to the field for use as tools to increase our success. We are looking to develop a 24/7 report, similar to the LifeStat weekly reports, that provides succinct and poignant snapshots of both information and intelligence usable by the field.

We want to recap significant stolen vehicle arrests by Troopers, and also provide brief descriptions of the techniques utilized to recover stolen vehicles. Hopefully this will act as a motivational tool to reignite our Blue Max program. I think this information can be combined with LEADS generated hot sheet information of stolen vehicles by county to provide timely, useful information to the field.

We can also include brief search and seizure updates, hidden compartment techniques or any other pertinent information that is specific and relative to the changing criminal behavior patterns in the state. This information is important because most of the homicides that the larger cities are asking for help with are committed with weapons smuggled in to their cities via the interstates from other areas of the country.

FW: What is the value of the Criminal Patrol Module that you want Patrol personnel to understand?

Collins: The Criminal Patrol Module is going to bring some basic changes in the capturing of data to help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our Troopers. By utilizing the CAD Incident Number across a number of different platforms,

we will be able to include more spatial analysis of crime patterns as they unfold across the state.

Improvements in data collection in both RIMS and CAD will help OSS and other GHQ Units provide more useful products to the field as well as the media. We are also committed to providing more resource information that I believe will help reinvigorate Troopers in the field towards LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative as well as expand the criminal patrol program to allow felony warrant apprehensions to be quantified.

I really believe the Criminal Patrol Module provides an opportunity to expand the reporting of Patrol successes related to stopping the criminals on Ohio roads.

Real Time Accountability & Increased Value Module

FW: What is the real time accountability and increased value goal as part of LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative?

Collins: We are going to reduce the time spent on redundant and archaic data reporting systems. I hope that comes as welcomed news to our people all across the state.

In an effort to reduce our redundant data reporting systems, this module focuses on improving time management through more efficient operating principles.

I know a significant amount of resources are currently used on administrative paperwork.

24/7 Initiative

This module is designed to increase productivity by eliminating unnecessary reporting tasks. The ability to streamline current operations will allow for more time to be spent improving traffic safety and eliminating the criminal offenders from Ohio roads.

FW: How do you expect this goal will be achieved?

Collins: Through accurate collection of data using available technologies, a Trooper's valuable time can be better spent on proactive law enforcement activities. CAD was designed with the premise that it would be a centralized point of information that is "live linked" to officer activity for safety, service and speed. There is an under-used capability to gather more information in our cars on the MCT and via dispatchers in lieu of performing time consuming tasks.

We are eliminating some activity recaps, and some misdemeanor cases all together. Let me list for you what we are eliminating. The paper HP-17 Activity Recap, paper Holiday Recap, 48-Hour Tow / Vehicle Impoundment Cases, Minor Misdemeanor Drug Cases, Misdemeanor and Felony Warrant Cases, Misdemeanor Drug Paraphernalia Cases, and Misdemeanor Open Container Cases.

FW: What new training is going to occur to ensure data is entered consistently?

Collins: Training is going to be key to ensure that the data gets entered in a consistent method so it can be used during statistical analysis. We will provide training to ensure uniform data entry. This proactive investment in our human resources will be a testament to our capabilities when an analysis is computed.

There will be instruction provided at Trooper and Sergeant In-Service for review of the data capture within the MCT and how their work helps every aspect of the Patrol's growth, justification, and public value. Dispatchers also will be trained on the new data capturing nuances to ensure a good check and balance between the Troopers and the collection point in CAD.

FW: What is it about the Real Time Accountability and Increased Value Module that you want Patrol personnel to understand?

Collins: The main thing we are going to be able to do with this module is establish the total accountability of the work that our agency does, which we could not really quantify through our old methods. We have taken an inventory of the numerous tools available to our current operations, and looked for ways we can use those tools more effectively. I am confident that by implementing the changes we have in mind we can save Troopers a lot of time as well as increase the quality of our services. I hope the changes we are making to the holiday recap and minor misdemeanor cases will come as terrific news to our field personnel.

Once again, I want to emphasize the CAD, and correct data entry into CAD, are the keys to our success. Our use of the CAD and location based information paints a clear picture of the Highway Patrol value. We are creating the best environment possible for the field so that motivation and productivity run high, which means we are saving time and creating value by instilling a future philosophy of technology that is built on our traditional foundation.

I also want to say that by capturing all of the

criminal information we are providing services statewide to Ohioans that are not provided by any other agency, and through the hard work of our Troopers we will be able to paint a picture for the media, legislature, and general public of how the Ohio State Highway Patrol helps secure safety both directly and indirectly through the services that we provide.

Operational Dispatching

FW: You mentioned at the beginning that you wanted to talk about Operational Dispatching. What is Operational Dispatching?

Collins: Operational Dispatching is a realignment of dispatching resources to maximize the use of our personnel, equipment, and communications operations. Personnel are not being eliminated, but rather shifted into a larger work group of dispatchers to ensure proper coverage, better working conditions, and to avoid duplication of efforts.

FW: What are the benefits of Operational Dispatching from conventional dispatching at each post?

Collins: One of the benefits with Operational Dispatching is that our dispatchers become part of a larger work group, which will improve working conditions. When a dispatcher is part of a shift with multiple dispatchers working in a communications center setting, reasonable use of leave, work assignments, and a more cohesive operation can be achieved.

Another benefit is coordination of communi-

cation. As post personnel work across post and district lines more frequently, coordinated dispatcher operations are necessary to ensure officer safety and efficient communications support.

FW: Why are we moving to Operational Dispatching?

Collins: Along with the benefits I just mentioned, we are moving in this direction to utilize the technology as a solution to assist our personnel in their daily duties. Technology can be overwhelming, but when used to its maximum potential, our dispatchers will be able to complete their duties in a more efficient and effective manner, while also experiencing better working conditions.

There have been some concerns voiced about increased travel times for dispatchers that live near a post where the dispatching function is being moved to another location. Although this does occur, plans are always scrutinized to make as minimal of an impact as possible. The ability to use leave in a reasonable fashion and the reduction of mandatory overtime should compensate for those affected by additional travel time.

Operational Dispatching also brings us in-line with the majority of dispatching operations around the country. Although we have our own unique application of this concept as it is being implemented for our personnel, it is more common to have a communications center environment than a lone dispatcher set-up.

FW: How does Operational Dispatching fit into the new LifeStat 24/7 Initiative?

Collins: Operational Dispatching allows for maximization of dispatching and equipment resources. Our dispatchers are on duty 24/7 to support our field units in their enforcement and safety efforts on the road. As each district initiates an Operational Dispatching plan, it is important to remember every district has its unique challenges, and equipment will be allocated in a way that makes sense based upon geography, post operations, personnel travel times, and as always, to support top of the line officer safety.

FW: Where are we currently with the implementation of Operational Dispatching?

Collins: All districts have been authorized to work through the proper channels to move into Level 2 and Level 3 of their plans. This simply means that dispatching operations can be transferred temporarily during times when dispatching coverage is needed. Each level specifically outlines what support is needed at the post transferring dispatching operations to another post.

District Two has been authorized to pilot Operational Dispatching Level 4. This is the stage that actually combines dispatching locations to achieve the maximization of our resources. As District Two completes this process, Level 4 will be approved for other districts. It is important to remember that each district will have a unique plan developed with their area, operations, and personnel in mind.

It is also important to remember that difficult issues will arise as with all new programs. Open communication, using the chain of command, and patience as difficulties are worked out are all necessary if this initiative is going to be successful.

FW: What is the ultimate plan for Operational Dispatching within the Patrol?

Collins: The ultimate plan is for the Ohio State Highway Patrol to have an efficient dispatching environment that uses our technology, equipment, and personnel to its maximum potential and ensure the professional operations in support of our troopers in the field. This plan is designed and intended to increase the professionalism, working conditions, and operational effectiveness of our communications system.

Let me end with this: What we envision today may look somewhat different two years from now. This is a dynamic process. Changes should be expected as this is rolled out statewide. The district plans that have been submitted are starting points. The end product may look the same or altogether different. Operational, personnel, facility, and technological issues play a role in what changes occur.

Wrap-up

FW: What do you expect will be the result of the entire LifeStat: The 24/7 Initiative?

Collins: Quite simply, I expect the result will be a diverse, effective, economical, and valuable resource that provides timely, accurate information to create a well-balanced law enforcement agency and a safer Ohio.



The
24/7
Initiative

2007 OSHP Retirees' Association Annual Banquet a success

By Shel Senek, OSHPRA President

One hundred twenty-four retirees, spouses, and current staff members attended the 2007 Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association Annual Banquet in Columbus. It was a special evening for Charlie Linek as he presided over his final meeting after an unprecedented five years as the association's president.

After dinner, First Vice President Senek read the names of retired members, active members, widows of retired members, and spouses of retired members who were called home during the past year. As the names were read, Secretary Bob Carson and Treasurer Jim Spurrier placed flowers on a special Retirees' Association Memorial, while President Charlie Linek rang a bell. This solemn ceremony gave pause for all to reflect on each person's contributions and passing.

Dick Curtis, executive director of the Retirement System, and Board Representative Larry Davis provided an overview of the state of the retirement system. The Retirement Board anguished about rising health care costs, fairness to members, and how to remain solvent in providing health care benefits to the members. More to follow in 2008, but members will be assessed a contribution likely beginning in mid-2008.

President Linek gave an update on the Snowbird Reunion, March 13-16, 2008, to be held in Ocala, Florida. Ernie and Darla Wilson have graciously taken on the task of hosting.

Colonel Richard Collins offered an overview on the active members and his vision. He discussed the value of technology and how it can make the Division more efficient. It's noted that before Colonel Collins became Superintendent, he and his wife, S/Lt. Brenda Collins, attended many Retiree functions. Colonel Collins is delighted to continue being ac-



Retired Colonel Tom Rice swears in the Retirees' Association officers. From left: Charlie Linek, Skip Spurrier, Arnie Schropp, Fred Goldstein, Shel Senek, and Bob Carson.

tive with the Retirees' Association.

The Annual Banquet is also the forum to install the newly elected Association Officers. Tom Rice administered the "Oath of Office" to Treasurer Skip Spurrier, Secretary Bob Carson, Second Vice President Fred Goldstein, First Vice President Arnie Schropp, and President Shel Senek.

After the installation of the new officers, now Past President Charlie Linek offered a few, but emotional, remarks about his tenure as president. Many positive initiatives were implemented under Charlie's presidency. As past president, he will remain on the Executive Board. Thank you to Charlie for his commitment and dedication to the Association.

The banquet concluded with a door prize drawing officiated by Past President Rob Hartsell. Chaplain Adam Reiss offered the Benediction and his well known signature line, "Never drive faster than your Guardian Angel can fly."

Sunbird Reunion



The Retiree's Association held its 10th Sunbird meeting and picnic August 18 in Sandusky. Among the 140 attendees were (from left): Ret. Colonel Jack Walsh, Colonel Richard Collins, Ret. Colonel Bob Chiamonte, and Ret. Col. Adam Reiss.

Retirees enjoy lunch, invite all to attend



A late lunch get together was held October 11 at the Brown Jug Restaurant in Delaware, Ohio. It was the consensus of everyone in attendance that this function continue on a quarterly basis, and also that everyone associated with the Patrol be invited to attend.

The 2008 Late Lunch Get Togethers at the Brown Jug Restaurant will be: January 10, April 10, July 10, and October 9, all at 1:00 p.m. Each attendee will order his/her meal from the menu and pay for same. Special thanks to Ted Wurm for organizing this affair.

Sergeant Anthony Davis



Anthony Davis

Sgt. Anthony Davis, Hiram, entered disability retirement on October 28, 2007, after more than 13 years of service. He trained with the 126th Academy Class and he served at the Toledo and Hiram posts as a trooper. He earned a promotion to sergeant in June 2003, and after briefly serving in the Warren District, he returned to the Hiram Post as an assistant commander.

In his career, he earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 10 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Erica, reside in Warren.

Trooper Scott Tanner



Scott Tanner

Tpr. Scott Tanner, Swanton, retired October 13 after more than 27 years of service. He began his Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at the Lisbon Post. He is a member of the 110th Academy Class, which graduated in July 1981. After earning his commission, he was assigned to the Swanton Post on the Ohio Turnpike, where he served throughout his career.

He received the Saved by the Belt Award in 1994 and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Dawna, live in Delta.

Trooper James Fisher



James Fisher

After more than 29 years of service, Tpr. James Fisher, Chillicothe, retired on August 31. He is a member of the 103rd Academy Class, and received his commission in July 1978. In addition to his service as a trooper at Chillicothe, he also served as an assistant post commander at Chillicothe and Portsmouth.

In his career, he was Chillicothe's Post Trooper of the Year in 1988, earned the Ace Award and a Certificate of Recognition, and was recognized for 20 years of safe driving. He resides in Kingston.

Electronic Technician 3 Thomas Anderson



Thomas Anderson

After 34 years of service, ET3 Thomas Anderson, Columbus DHQ, retired on September 14. He joined the Division in 1973 as a communication technician at Columbus DHQ. He transferred to GHQ in Technology and Communications in 1976. After a series of promotions, he returned to Columbus DHQ as head of the district's Tech Team in May 1985.

In his career, he was recognized for 30 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Susanne, reside in Columbus.

Trooper Mark Majetich



Mark Majetich

After 20 years of service, Tpr. Mark Majetich, Ravenna, retired on November 10, 2007. He joined the Division as a member of the 116th Academy Class.

After earning his commission in September 1987, he was assigned to Fremont where he served five years and was Post Trooper of the Year in 1991. He transferred to Ravenna in 1992 and was Post Trooper of the Year there twice.

In his career, he also earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award seven times and was recognized for 10 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Sandra, live in Newton Falls.

Driver License Examiner 1 Honey Bendervich



Honey Bendervich

DX1 Honey Bendervich retired August 31 after more than 28 years of service. She joined the Patrol in February 1979 and served as a driver examiner in the Jackson District throughout her career.

She and her husband, James, live in Athens.

Driver License Examiner 1 Linda Cunningham-Mustard

DX1 Linda Cunningham-Mustard retired September 29



Linda Cunningham-Mustard

after more than 20 years of service. She joined the Patrol in March 1987 and served as a driver examiner in the Wilmington District throughout her career.

She and her husband, Rickey, live in Wilmington.

Driver License Examiner 1 Mary Napper



Mary Napper

DX1 Mary Napper, Marion DX, retired November 30 after more than 24 years of service. She joined the Patrol in July 1983 and served as a driver examiner in the Bucyrus District throughout her career.

She and her husband, Sylvester, live in Morral.

Driver License Examiner 1 Harold Roessler



Harold Roessler

After 17 years of service, DX1 Harold Roessler, Zanesville DX, retired on September 27. He joined the Patrol in June 1990 and served as a driver examiner at Zanesville throughout his career.

He and his wife, Mary, live in Zanesville.

Secretary Marilyn Adkins



Marilyn Adkins

After 26 years of Patrol service, Sec. Marilyn Adkins retired on August 31. She joined the Division in September 1981 and served at the Portsmouth Post throughout her career. She and her husband, Don, reside in New Boston.

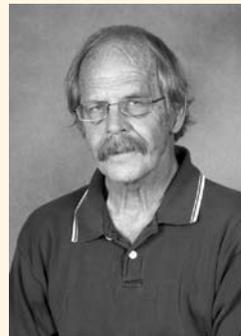
Records Management Officer Shirley Flaherty



Shirley Flaherty

Shirley Flaherty, Strategic Services, entered disability retirement on April 1 after 22 years of service. She joined the Division in March 1985 as a data entry operator. She and her husband, Dale, reside in Columbus.

Storekeeper 1 Gerald Grogan



Gerald Grogan

Storekeeper 1 Gerald Grogan, Logistic Services, retired November 9 after 14 years of service. He joined the Division in 1993 and served in the Patrol stockroom throughout his career. He and his wife, Patricia, live in Columbus.

Secretary Lynette Rawlings



Lynette Rawlings

After more than 24 years of service, Sec. Lynette Rawlings, Lisbon, retired August 17. She began her Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at the Steubenville Post in 1982. She trained with the 113th Academy Class in 1984 before serving as a trooper at Athens and Steubenville. In March 1989, she accepted a position as a dispatcher at Steubenville. She transferred to Lisbon and has served as the post's secretary since February 1990.

She was recognized as the Warren District's Employee Recognition Award winner for 2006. She and her husband, Jeffrey, reside in Toronto.



Expressing sympathy



Walter A. Ashbridge

Walter A. Ashbridge

Retired Capt. Walter A. Ashbridge, 63, died October 27 after an extended illness. He was a member of the 67th Academy Class. He served at Ashtabula, Chardon, Defiance, and Bucyrus before retiring as commander of the Piqua District in March 1994. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, and daughters: Gayle, Tami, and Lori.



Charles R. Gates

Charles R. Gates

Retired Tpr. Charles R. Gates, 63, of Bridgeport, passed away November 12 after a long illness. He graduated with the 67th Academy Class in 1965. He served at Canfield and Cambridge, and was the Carroll County resident trooper from 1969–1976 and 1980–1990. He retired in June 1990 after 26 years of service. He is survived by his son,

Jeffrey, and daughter, Mary Ellen.



William H. Barton

William H. Barton

Retired Ptl. William H. Barton, 88, passed away July 14. He was a member of the 36th Class, which was commissioned in 1952. During his career, he served at Xenia, Ashland, and Massillon before retiring in January 1974. He is survived by his children: David, Chip, Charles, and Barbara.



Donald R. Little

Donald R. Little

Retired Sgt. Donald R. Little, 66, died October 23 in Ashtabula. He joined the Division in 1967 as a member of the 77th Academy Class. He served at Swanton, Hiram, and Marietta before retiring as an assistant commander at Ashtabula in March 1977. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, and children: Britney, Michal,

Brandy, Kristy, Kimberly, Dana Marie, Tammy, Jeffrey, and Brian.



Max J. Bowen

Max J. Bowen

Retired Comm. Tech. 1 Max J. Bowen, 81, passed away October 1. He joined the Patrol in 1952 and served as a member of the Cambridge District communications team from 1960 until his retirement in March 1978. He is survived by his wife, Rachel, and children: Marcia, Michele, and John.



Donald H. Rodgers

Donald H. Rodgers

Retired Lt. Donald H. Rodgers, 71, died November 14 at his home in Ravenna. He joined the Division in 1959 and trained with the 51st Academy Class. He served at Walbridge, Mansfield, and Castalia before retiring as commander of the Hiram Post in September 1988. He is survived by his wife, Maryann, and daughter, Keri.



Joseph A. Fister
and Mary Jo.

Joseph A. Fister

Retired Cpl. Joseph A. Fister, 91, passed away August 22 after a prolonged illness. He was a member of the 21st Class, which was commissioned in 1946. During his career he served at New Philadelphia, Cambridge, Marietta, Akron, and Steubenville. He retired in January 1968. He is survived by his children: Joe, Dorothy, Bernie, Barbara, Teresa,

GHQ

Since 1999, Windham High School’s scholarship program, “Brick by Brick,” has provided more than \$30,000 to graduates, with \$12,000 awarded in 2007. The program hosts an annual fundraising dinner, and a successful Windham alumnus is invited to speak.

On August 18, Major Christopher Minter, commander of Field Operations and a 1974 graduate of Windham High School, was the featured speaker at the sixth annual dinner.

Major Minter talked about his Patrol career and encouraged students and Windham residents to pursue their dreams. Windham Superintendent Carol Kropniak said, “Chris was an outstanding guest speaker. It’s exciting to have an alum come back and share fond memories of Windham. Hearing his success story was very special.”



Berea District

Disp. Linda Magrey, Berea Communications Center, is a caregiver for a relative suffering from Alzheimer’s. Through her involvement with an Alzheimer’s Association support group, she realized many caregivers are overwhelmed dealing with issues surrounding their loved ones’ desire to continue driving.

To provide insight on this topic, she invited Tpr. Adam Doles, Hiram, to speak to the group. On October 16, Tpr. Doles conducted a speech detail for a dozen caregivers at the Brook Park Recreation Center. He was very welcomed by the group and addressed the caregivers’ questions and concerns, providing the group with valuable information as well as comforting words.

Toledo



On September 29, Tpr. Steve Powell was recognized by the Toledo Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Tpr. Powell removed 132 impaired drivers from Ohio’s roadways in 2006. The OVI arrest leader from each department in the Toledo area was recognized and received a plaque for their efforts.

Lima



Lt. Shannon Gehrish, Lima post commander, was honored at a luncheon on September 19 for promoting traffic safety along with Lima Police Chief Greg Garlock and Allen County Sheriff Dan Beck. They worked together to combat failure to yield violations in Allen County. Also pictured is Captain David Gillespie, Findlay District commander.

Wooster

For several years, the Patrol and Wooster Motor Ways Trucking Company have shared a booth at the Wayne County Fair with county and local law enforcement and the Safe Communities Coalition of Wayne County to promote sharing the road safely and the importance of child safety seats.

Wanting something different to draw people to the booth, Lt. Chad Enderby suggested a dunk tank, and volunteered to be the first on the “wet seat.” Thus “DUNK A COP (for charity)” became a reality. Other dunk participants were Tpr. Sean Starr and Dalton Police Chief Ryan Pearson. Fortunately, the weather was great, and while the event ran only limited hours the first three days of the fair, it was a huge success. At two balls for a \$1, the tank raised \$675 for the local Ronald McDonald House.



Lt. Chad Enderby and Doc Ramage (Wooster Motor Ways) present a check to Cindy Misheff of the Ronald McDonald House.



Dayton

Tpr. Jason Hutchinson attended specialized training with his military police battalion at Fort Knox, Kentucky, in September. He graduated this course with Distinguished Honors for Outstanding Achievement, demonstrating his commitment and dedication to exceed course standards.

Tpr. Hutchinson is a sergeant in the United States Army Reserve 342nd Military Police Company Detachment. He is tentatively scheduled to deploy to Iraq in January 2008. This will be his second deployment to that region since 2003.

Left: Tpr. Jason Hutchinson and his wife, Leslie, at Fort Knox.

Warren District



MCEI David Dvorak (third from left) was honored as a Knight of Columbus for his participation in raising needed funds for the Mother of Sorrow Parish Soup Kitchen in Ashtabula. He was responsible for the Parish receiving a check of \$500 towards their outreach efforts.

ODPS Heroes



On November 19, ODPS Director Henry Guzmán presented Tpr. John Deptula, Norwalk, and Tpr. Darren Huggins, Cleveland Operations, with “ODPS Heroes” certificates recognizing their military service in Iraq. Following their deployments, Tpr. Deptula and Tpr. Huggins each returned to duty with the Patrol in October.

Operation Feed

Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) employees raised 96,154 meals for the 2007 Operation Feed Campaign, exceeding the goal of 63,928 meals by 50 percent. The department's commitment to this program is extraordinary and consistently represents the largest collection total by any state agency. During the past three years, ODPS employees have raised more than \$1 million for charitable causes.

Director Henry Guzmán extended his appreciation to all ODPS employees for responding to the challenge of feeding Ohio's hungry. The campaign committee is to be commended for their time and talent in planning the many fundraising activities that made the campaign a success. A special thanks to the Patrol's District 2 and District 3 for donating the most money and food to this year's campaign.

ES1 Linda Carson, Licensing and Commercial Standards, served as the Agency Co-Chair along with Agency Chairperson David Brown, Human Resource Management.



On August 21, Director Henry Guzmán presented Matt Habash, executive director for the Mid Ohio Food Bank, a check for 96,154 meals. From left: Director Guzmán, ES1 Linda Carson, Matt Habash, and David Brown.



Ravenna

Ravenna Post commander Lt. Michael Marucci and his family recently ran in the inaugural Run for Andy and Grace. Andy and Grace were Hiram College students who were killed by a habitual drunken driver in March 2006. The run was held to raise money for a scholarship in their memory.

Michael and his daughter Samantha, 14, ran the three-mile race while his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Alexis, 11, participated in the one-mile walking course.

From left: Samantha, Michael, Alexis, and Lisa Marucci.

Ironton



On October 25, Tpr. Tiffany Coriell assisted the Lawrence County Sheriff's Office as a judge for a poster contest. The contest was for all Lawrence County fifth grade students to create an anti-drug poster. Tpr. Coriell was a judge for South Point Elementary and Burlington Elementary.

Van Wert



Tpr. Deb Tracey assisted Erie Insurance with their "Safety Bug" presentation to 150 students at Crestview High School. The Bug is a Volkswagen Beetle designed to slow drivers' reaction times to simulate the effects of alcohol. Tpr. Tracey demonstrated the Fatal Vision Goggles, which were of interest to everyone.

Findlay District

On August 10 and June 27, members of the District 1 Honor Guard and Criminal Patrol team participated in the 2007 Mud Hens Drug Prevention Program. The events focused alcohol, tobacco, and drug awareness through motivational messages. The events specifically focused on inviting children who may not have the financial means to participate, but were afforded the opportunity through complimentary tickets and lunch. Partners for Safety funds were utilized to purchase pennants with a “buckle up” message.

Members of the Honor Guard participating in the detail were (from left in photo): Sgt. Eric Gonzalez, Tpr. Greg Rayot, Tpr. Shane Johnson, and Tpr. John Chaney.

Tpr. Jason Archer also assisted along with Tpr. Ryan Stewart and K-9 Cheisa from the criminal patrol team.



Piqua District

On July 28, Trooper Vee Witcher (pictured), Piqua, participated in the fourth annual back-to-school book bag and supply giveaway coordinated by Revival Center Ministries International’s, (RCMI) outreach ministry. More than 600 school-age children from the Dayton area enjoyed food, drinks, music, face paintings, and toys.

Wright Patterson Air Force Base partnered with RCMI to provide book bags and uniforms for the children. The children also received Ohio Troopers Caring (OTC) litter bags, OTC rulers, “buckle up” key chains, Teddy Trooper tattoos, and two-inch kick balls. Tpr. B.J. Cook, Dayton, and S/Lt. Robert Johnson, Piqua DHQ, assisted with the detail.

Jackson District



On October 13, Jackson DHQ hosted a lunch for all D9 retirees. Attendance was well over 100, including former D9 Commander, Major Lisa Taylor. Many old friendships were renewed and stories told. From left: Col. Richard Collins, Ret. Lt. Dean Conklin, Ret. S/Lt. Dan Gibson, Ret. Lt. Luther VanSickle, Ret. Sgt. Steve Belyus, Ret. Tpr. Ivan Teets, and Major Bob Brooks.

Norwalk



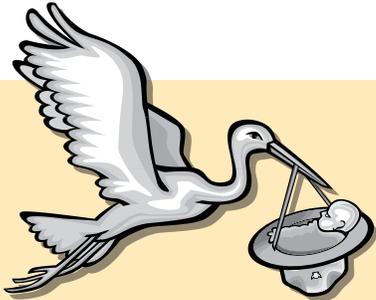
On July 9, Sgt. Mary Mack led the public safety team “One Common Goal” at Norwalk’s Relay for Life event. The team raised more than \$1,500 for the American Cancer Society by selling corn on the cob, raffle tickets for some great donated prizes, running a dunk tank, and more. The event was a huge success and a lot of fun.

Defiance



From left: Tpr. Jason Highsmith, Lt. Mike Marchek, Tpr. Gale Horn, Tpr. J.J. McClain, Sgt. Mike McClain, Tpr. Chad Spallinger, Sgt. Jim Edwards, Tpr. Adam Brincefield, and Tpr. Marcus Pirrone.

On October 13, Patrol personnel participated in the WDFM 98.1 "Christmas for Kids, Toy Bike Run." The benefit started at the BW3 restaurant in Defiance and traveled to the Harley Davidson Sales and Service Store in Napoleon. Riders donated a new toy to participate and all of the toys were given to needy children in the Defiance area for Christmas.



Stork Visits

Tpr. Shane & Mary Morrow, Mansfield, a boy, 8/2/07.
 Tpr. Thiphasone & Jennifer Vongsy, Dayton, a boy, 8/7/07.
 AA4 Brian & Meredith Kitay, Strategic Services, a boy, 8/9/07.
 Lt. David & Tracey Lee, Zanesville, a girl, 8/10/07.
 Tpr. Daniel & Jennifer Laubacher, Wooster, a girl, 8/13/07.
 Pub. Ed. Kandee & Andrew Tinkham, Strategic Services, a boy, 8/17/07.
 Tpr. Brian & Stephanie Mercer, Hiram, a boy, 8/22/07.
 Tpr. Richard & Sylvia Anderson, Milan, a boy 8/23/07.
 Tpr. Chris & Anna Thyne, Ashtabula, a boy, 9/4/07.
 Sec. Amy & Kyle Bils, Bucyrus DHQ, of a boy, 9/6/07.
 Tpr. Brad & Angel Evans, Canton, a boy, 9/10/07.
 Sgt. Jonathon & Kathy Gray, Lima, a boy, 9/20/07.
 Sgt. Max & Annaliese Norris, Athens, a boy, 9/21/07.
 DX1 Roscoe & Jewell Bowman, Wilmington District, a boy, 9/22/07.
 AA4 Jim & Lisa Hansen, Logistic Services, a girl, 10/1/07.
 Tpr. Mike & Holly Dirr, Van Wert, a girl, 10/2/07.
 Tpr. Andrew & Jodi Masiella, Canton, a boy, 10/4/07.
 Tpr. Christopher & Yvette Jester, Lisbon, a girl, 10/10/07.

West Jefferson



Columbus Police Chief James Jackson presents Sgt. Gary Thompson a special commendation.

On May 9, Sgt. Gary Thompson was on Norton Road in Columbus and came upon a crash that had just occurred. A motorcyclist had been struck by a vehicle and was severely injured. Sgt. Thompson and a bystander immediately began CPR on the victim and continued until medics arrived. Although the victim died at the hospital, the Columbus Division of Police awarded Sgt. Thompson a special commendation for his efforts to save the victim's life.

MVI Eric Fidram & Amy Recknor, Warren District, a girl, 10/12/07.
 Tpr. Aaron & Andrea Morgan, Chillicothe, a girl, 10/16/07.
 Tpr. Sam & Courtney Tillman, Swanton, a boy, 10/17/07.
 Tpr. Kent & Krista Jeffries, Sandusky, a girl, 10/19/07.
 Tpr. Gregory & Jennifer Harkey, Defiance, a girl, 10/20/07.
 S/Lt. Daniel & Tricia Springs, Capital Operations, a boy, 10/20/07.
 Tpr. Timmothy & Michelle Hoffman, Milan, a boy, 10/21/07.
 Sec. Kimberly LaMoncha, Lancaster, a boy, 10/21/07.
 Tpr. Beebe & John Toton, Elyria, a boy, 10/23/07.
 MCEI James & Candice Underation, Cambridge District, a boy, 11/5/07.
 GIS Gary & Sue Macklis, Strategic Services, a girl, 11/6/07.
 Tpr. Clint & Jenny Armstrong, New Philadelphia, a girl, 11/8/07.
 Tpr. Jeremy & Sarah Grubb, New Philadelphia, a boy, 11/8/07.
 Tpr. Amy & Adam Pennington, Batavia, a boy, 11/13/07.
 Tpr. Thomas & Cindy Hacker, Irononton, a girl, 11/17/07.
 Disp. Ashley Moyer, Bowling Green, a girl, 11/20/07.
 Sgt. André & Jen Swinerton, Academy, a boy, 11/21/07.
 Tpr. Kurt & Beth Hedges, Lancaster, a girl, 11/26/07.
 Tpr. Tytus & Jessica Gilliland, Wilmington, a girl, 11/26/07.
 Tpr. Shawn & Carly Bailey, Delaware, a girl, 11/26/07.

There are two relatively large posters in my house. These posters were made by the children in the kindergarten classes at Central College Church Academy. They are posters I cherish very highly. Each child made a self portrait and then, in kindergarten-style of writing, signed his or her name. The posters - which the children claimed to be "large cards," were sent to me as part of Pastors' Recognition Month, which is designated for October.

You can be certain that I appreciated the expression of appreciation on the part of the children which, I am confident, was nurtured by the teachers. However, when I reflected upon the month designated for Pastors' Recognition and Appreciation, my mind went to the fact that we do not do enough in recognizing you who have responded to the call of ministry as law enforcement personnel.

Yes, I know the month of May is a time when we do some recognition. There is acknowledgment of those who have lost their lives in the line of service. But, in my opinion, there is not enough recognition given for the excellent work which you and others in your chosen profession do everyday. In a real sense every month - yes, everyday-should be a time for law enforcement recognition. You have heard me say, and I will probably repeat many more times, that I firmly believe you are called to be ministers of justice. This is explained very clearly in the first five verses of the 13th Chapter of Paul's letter to the church at Rome.

As I read that passage again it occurred to me that you become champions for justice. In many ways you are like a young shepherd boy by the name of David. You may recall that

David went against a large challenge in his day. For those who would like to review the account of the encounter between David and Goliath I refer you to the 17th Chapter of I Samuel.

In that account we have a young boy who left his father's farm to discover that the battle between Israelites and the Philistines was at a stalemate. The cause of the stalemate was a giant who stood over nine feet tall, wore a suit of armor that weighed about 150 pounds, and carried a spear which had a pointed head weighing about 15 pounds. David was no match for Goliath from strictly a physical viewpoint. However, he prevailed because of his strong sense of commitment and his personal courage.

At the present time our nation is at war. In fact, the free world is at war against terrorism. It is a whole different ball game then when my generation went to war where we could see the enemy. The enemy today is hidden from public view in so many ways. But you, members of law enforcement who are committed to the preservation of life, property, and the American way of life, have an uncanny ability to discover and prevail against the overwhelming forces that would destroy our way of life.

This extra responsibility comes in addition to your calling to provide for safety on our highways and public places. There are many who are saying that we cannot prevail and achieve victory but I would disagree. The story of David going against Goliath tells me that when we are on the side of right and have individuals like all of you members in the Ohio State Highway Patrol, that victory will be achieved.

On behalf of all the citizens who are served by you each day I would express deep appreciation. We appreciate



your commitment, your courage, and your response to a call to be ministers of justice. You are protecting and saving life on the highways and in our public places. You are also waging a victorious battle against the forces of tyranny and terror. We who are private citizens can go to sleep at night, and go about our routine activities each day, because of individuals like you in law enforcement agencies across the country who have responded to a call that puts service above self.

This holiday season is a time during which we, as a nation, give thanks for our many blessings. Every month should be a time to give thanks for you individuals who are committed to the Core Values which make the Ohio State Highway Patrol the excellent law enforcement agency of which the State of Ohio can be very proud.

Richard D. Ellsworth

Richard D. Ellsworth
Chaplain



A glimpse at what's new and upcoming

75th Anniversary merchandise available

Plans for the Patrol's 75th anniversary next year are moving forward and include the opportunity for **Patrol employees and retirees** to purchase a variety of commemorative keepsakes.

The deadline to order the commemorative shotgun (pictured) has been extended until March 31. Please see your supervisor for ordering information. Retirees may e-mail S/Lt. Lance Mathess at lmathess@dps.state.oh.us.

Other items available include rings and other jewelry from Jostens, a history book and yearbook, and licensed clothing with the 75th anniversary logo.

The following companies among the Patrol's licensed vendors are offering 75th anniversary merchandise:

Added Touch Creations

Apparel and embroidery

330-871-2331

www.addedtouchcreations.com

Action Accessories - Custom Embroidery

Apparel

800-327-2779

www.actionembroidery1.com

Eagle Bay Distribution, Inc.

Knives

706-587-6113

www.eaglebaycutlery.net

Idegy

Apparel

614-545-5000

www.idegy.com

SymbolArts LLC

Pins and Collectible Coins

801-475-6000

www.symbolarts.com

Links to other licensed Patrol vendors can be found at <http://statepatrol.ohio.gov/programs/Trademark/Licensed%20Companies.htm>.



The deadline to order the commemorative shotgun has been extended until March 31.



Jostens is offering 75th Anniversary jewelry at <http://www.jostens.com/ohiostatehighwaypatrol>.



Several licensed Patrol vendors are offering 75th Anniversary apparel, like the above hat from Action Accessories - Custom Embroidery.



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