

FLYING

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WHEEL

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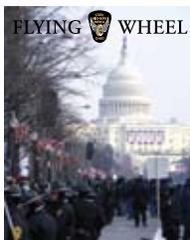
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The "Flying Wheel" is published by the Office of Strategic Services in the interest of the entire Highway Patrol family.

Each year we celebrate our personnel who exemplify the best of the best. A few weeks ago we honored troopers, dispatchers, professional staff and specialty personnel who were selected by their peers as being a notch above the rest.

I am sure each of those employees who were honored, and who appear in the pages of this magazine, would agree with me that it takes all of us working together as a team to accomplish great things. Each one of you, whether you were a 2008 award winner or not, contributed to something great.

In 2008, our 75th Anniversary, Ohio highways were safer than any previous year on record. A number of districts experienced significant declines in traffic fatalities, and provisional statistics indicate Ohio urban and rural traffic fatalities each decreased substantially compared to 2007. Metro enforcement yielded amazing inter-agency successes in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton and Toledo.

State troopers made 25,512 OVI arrests, which were 782 more OVI arrests than in 2007. The increase in OVI arrests directly contributed to the 11 percent reduction in OVI-related fatal crashes recorded in Ohio as compared with 2007.

While Ohio roads were getting safer, state troopers embraced the 24/7 Initiative's criminal patrol elements and improved the quality of life for all Ohioans through 5,226 drug arrests, 1,693 felony arrests, 972 felony warrant apprehensions, 251 arrests for illegal weapons and 503 stolen vehicles recovered.

As we look to build on those amazing accomplishments, by the end of this year we will have a plan that will set our course for the next decade and beyond. The 2010 plan will belong to each of you, and through a broad cross-section of all personnel who will be involved in the plan's development, will be a reflection of our best people, ideas and goals.

I am excited to join you as we set a new standard for professional law enforcement service. Like the accomplishments of those we honor in this magazine, we can achieve even greater heights by individually and collectively accepting the challenge to provide for the citizens of Ohio an improved quality of life through our overall vision for a unified effort of public safety.



Colonel Richard H. Collins
Superintendent



By the end of this year we will have a new strategic plan that will set our course for the next decade and beyond.

CAPITOL OPERATIONS UNIT

Balancing safety and security with public access to high-profile government buildings

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

In 2007, the Patrol took an evolutionary step by changing how we provide security and safety services while also reducing, by at least \$700,000 per year, the resources expended on this effort. While we are spending less, our security and response services have significantly increased.

Our legislated security presence in state-owned or -leased properties took on a new significance and level of commitment after 9/11. Since shortly after the attacks, state troopers have maintained a highly-visible presence in the Ohio Statehouse, Vern Riffe Government Center and the Rhodes State Office Tower as well as the Ohio Judicial Center, which houses the Ohio Supreme Court. The four buildings, referred to as “the campus” by our Capitol Operations Unit, represent the heart of Ohio government.

While some agencies have offices in other locations in Columbus, these four buildings are, for all intents and purposes, the home of Ohio government. As such, they are often the site of protests, rallies and demonstrations concerning a wide variety of issues. With these events often comes intense media coverage which, at times, has reached across the world.

The responsibility for providing security at these four buildings, which are home to approximately 6,500 employees

every work day, rests on the shoulders of our Capitol Operations Unit. Their combined efforts are even more daunting when one takes into account that on any given work day, more than 30,000 people work in the downtown area contiguous to these four buildings.

Capitol Cover and the 24/7 Initiative

In 2008, the 24/7 Initiative created some significant changes for the field. These changes shored up operations for better reporting purposes and evaluation of the core services provided by the Patrol. A year later, we have been witness to one of the most successful years in our history.

To build on those successes, at the beginning of this year we implemented Capitol Cover which better showcases all of the services provided by Capitol Operations officers. The initiative’s goal is to show our value in a simple visual format. It was designed to minimize additional work while requiring officers to perform new tasks that had proved successful for field units in 2008.

A major component of Capitol Cover is the reporting of all activity to dispatchers for inclusion in the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD). After all Incident, Status and Dispositions are entered in the CAD, the Statistical Analysis Unit is able to provide visual representations of all activities reported.

Challenges and adjustments based on the different types of buildings

Not only do the building structures themselves present separate challenges, but the type of security warranted in each



building is different. Security measures are adjusted based on individual facilities. These adjustments include the compliance of security personnel assigned and the particular work of state government performed in each building. Because of the differences in providing security at different buildings, officers must be flexible enough to adjust their operations.

Prior to 9/11, the contingent of troopers at the Ohio Statehouse was less than what the Patrol has in place today. Troopers are more visible and use more roving patrols as opposed to stationary patrols. Officers are strategically placed around the Statehouse depending on where employees or visitors are at any given time. By combining stationary and roving patrols, a greater security and deterrent effect is created because it is not always evident where the troopers are within the complex. Using both roving and stationary patrols also provides a greater ability for officers to respond within the entire campus area in the event of an incident.

Important function of dispatchers

Success as a law enforcement agency often hinges on the professional operations of dispatchers. State building security is no different, especially where the dispatch area is essentially the hub for the entire operation. They have a multi-faceted job, which varies significantly from a dispatcher working in the field. To say dispatchers need the ability to multi-task is an understatement because of the volume of calls and job-related responsibilities they have on a daily basis.

The dispatchers at the Patrol's Capitol Operations Unit are highly-trained to handle emergency situations and typical calls. They also monitor nearly 100 security cameras that cover the area immediately adjacent to the Statehouse campus and more than 250 panic alarms for the Ohio Statehouse, as well as other building alarms.

Being an ambassador for the agency

Troopers assigned at Capitol Operations serve two functions: First and foremost is security for the buildings and the tenants and visitors to the buildings; and second, which is just as important, the officers are ambassadors, not only to carry out the mission of the Patrol, but to do so while maintaining a relationship with the general public, tenants, and high-pro-

file people who work in and visit the buildings.

Governor Ted Strickland has a working office in the Statehouse at which a trooper is posted outside. On a daily basis, anyone from a U.S. congressman to the Speaker of the House to local dignitaries can come in contact with our officers. The officers know how important it is that they do the right things while providing security to the people in the buildings and that they look professional while carrying out those functions. The officers all take that into consideration and show a lot of pride because they know that the governmental agencies and high-profile people who work in the buildings count on them and respect the job they are doing.

While providing a visible presence and deterrent, each assigned officer is an "Ambassador" for the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Many of the people each officer comes in contact with on a daily basis have little or no contact with the troopers who work the road. How they see each officer perform his or her duties can directly impact how they perceive our entire organization. Each of our officers is told, the door you hold, the person you say good morning to or the one you provide directions to, may very well be the same person who will decide legislative matters key to our organization's goals and mission.

Critical incident response and training

Government building security also includes planning for response to critical incidents and emergencies. For the Capitol Operations Unit, following a critical incident, commanders would first meet with building management and determine, based on the type of incident or emergency, what steps or plan of action would be initiated to minimize any injury and continue to provide security and safety to the building occupants and visitors. Emergency procedures are in place for a variety of possible incidents.

In partnership with the Ohio Building Authority and the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board, floor wardens are assigned to each floor of the Statehouse campus buildings. Quarterly training is conducted with the floor wardens in regard to a multitude of things including building evacuations and alarm procedures. The Statehouse has an assistant
—Please see *Capitol Operations Unit* on page 19



Sixty troopers assist with security at presidential inauguration

At the request of law enforcement officials in Washington, D.C., Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers traveled to our nation's capital to provide assistance and security during the inauguration of President Barack Obama on January 20.

Troopers provided security assistance on the Pennsylvania Avenue parade route near 7th Street. Their location placed them very close to one of the points where the presidential motorcade stopped and President Obama and his wife, Michelle, as well as Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Jill, left their vehicles and walked part of the parade route.

The Ohio state troopers were among police officers from 92 law enforcement agencies from across the country that assisted with the detail.

Authorities from Washington, D.C., entered into an agreement by signing a Memorandum of Understanding to grant outside agencies the authority to conduct joint efforts. Upon their arrival, troopers were sworn-in by representatives from the U.S. Marshal's Office, granting them full law enforcement powers during the detail.

The troopers selected for the detail



Ohio troopers provided security along the Pennsylvania Avenue parade route during the inauguration of President Barack Obama on January 20. This was the second time Ohio troopers have provided security at a presidential inauguration.

were all volunteers and were assigned based on overtime opportunities and seniority. The officers all took vacation or other permissive leave to participate.

This was the third time troopers were called to assist law enforcement officials in Washington, D.C. In September 2002, the Patrol was one

of four state law enforcement agencies selected to provide crowd control assistance during the World Bank/International Monetary Fund (IMF) conference. Troopers also provided security during the second-term inauguration of President George W. Bush in January 2005.

Second badge program available for exterior, non-shirt garments

Sworn personnel below the rank of captain and communications personnel who wear a badge as part of their official uniform are now permitted to purchase an optional second badge at their current rank for displaying on their utility jacket or raincoat. The second badge, purchased at the employee's own expense, may only be purchased from an official Division-licensed company.

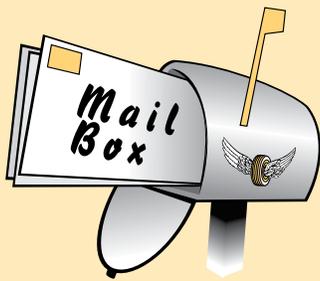
OSP-302.07 (Standard uniform issue for all personnel, seasonal dates, and guidelines for wear) has been revised to reflect wear and use of the second badge. Included with the policy is form OHP 1308, which will be required for authorization through the Office of Strategic Services prior to the finalization of any second badge purchase. Also attached to policy is an order form. Guidelines for the second badge will be as follows (as outlined in OSP-302.07):

- Employees who wear a badge as part of their official uniform are permitted to purchase an optional single second badge at their current rank for wear on their utility jacket or raincoat.
- The second badge, purchased at the employee's expense, may only be purchased from an officially Division-licensed company using form OHP 1308 Second Badge

Order, and any associated order forms developed by the second badge licensed company.

- The Division-licensed company will contact the Office of Strategic Services to verify the requesting employee's name and rank.
- A database of approved second badges authorized for manufacture and sale by a Division-licensed company will be maintained by Strategic Services.
- Each employee who purchases a second badge must indicate that information on the HP-61.
- If a second badge becomes lost or stolen, a case must be initiated as with Division-issued uniform equipment as outlined in OSP-100.01.
- Employees may purchase a second badge for any previous rank held. However, only one second badge for each current and previous rank may be purchased.
- The second badge is only to be worn as uniform equipment on exterior non-shirt garments and should not be used in any other manner as a form of identification.

Questions about the second badge ordering process can be directed to Jeff Grayson in the Office of Strategic Services, jgrayson@dps.state.oh.us, or 614-387-7432.



Troopers' assistance, professionalism lauded

I would like to thank Tpr. Gannon for his assistance on February 11. I was waiting on Route 35 for AAA assistance to change a flat tire when Tpr. Gannon stopped to help. I was stopped in an area where the shoulder is very narrow. Tpr. Gannon waited, lights on, for the tow truck to arrive and provided visual protection (and flashlight help) for the mechanic while he changed the tire. Without Tpr. Gannon's assistance, the situation would have been even more dangerous than it was – the mechanic had to be in the outside lane of the three traffic lanes while he changed the tire. Tpr. Gannon was very professional and pleasant during this situation. I truly appreciated his presence.

Steve Vrooman

Last night (2/20/09) I had a tire blow-out south of Beechmont Avenue on I-275. Tpr. John Thorne stopped and changed my tire for me. I just wanted to say how nice it was for him to stop and help me. He was extremely nice and respectful, and I want to thank him, again, for helping me out. It's nice to know that the officers in Ohio are looking out for us on the roadways.

Dave Heimkreiter

My son is going to college now, working towards becoming a state trooper. I am very proud of his choice, of course we will worry about the dangers you all face daily. We respect all law enforcement professionals and thank you for protecting and serving.

Steve Daffron

I would like to compliment Tpr. Lori Dixon who assisted me when I had a flat tire and was very distraught over it. She was not only helpful and confident; she fixed the flat in no time at all and had me on my way again on

a very cold afternoon I just wanted to thank her and tell her supervisor what a wonderful job she is doing.

Judy Kaufman

My husband was stranded on I-75 this morning (1/31/09) because of a flat and he could not get the spare tire which is stored under the van because he and a nice gentleman who tried to help accidentally broke the latch. A trooper came to aid him and helped to get the spare and lit flares and turned his lights on because my husband was rather afraid of the traffic. Please let him know how grateful we are.

David and Sonja Chatman

I want to commend your agency for standing up for the safety of the citizens of Ohio and the people who travel through our state. I am referencing the proposed change to the speed limit law for large trucks to increase their speed to 65 mph. I have lived in Kentucky and Tennessee which allow large trucks to travel from 65 to 70 mph. I always cringe when I enter these states, which I have named the great truck race! These large vehicles speeding down a hill in your rear view mirror are very frightening. In keeping trucks at a slower speed, it not only saves lives, but it also saves fuel. Thank you for standing up for the safety of Ohio roads and opposing allowing the truckers to increase their speed limit.

Edmund J. Toomey

I just wanted to say thank you again to Tpr. Patrick for all of his help on January 23. My two young daughters and I were traveling south on I-71 when my tire blew near Kings Island. I have never changed a tire before and I was not sure I could do it on the side of a highway during rush hour with an anxious 5-year-old in the back seat.

Tpr. Patrick's presence not only alerted traffic that we were on the side of the road, but his calm demeanor was a blessing for me. The mere mention of a trooper helping us out provided more calm to my daughter than I ever could have. I can't thank you enough!

Angie Beier

I just wanted to say thank you to a state trooper that stopped to help me last night (1/15/09) during the snow storm we had. I was on my way home and slid off to the side of the road merging from I-670E to I-270S. I was stuck for about 10 minutes when an officer stopped to offer assistance. Unfortunately I did not get his name, but without his help I would have possibly been stuck there for quite some time. I know state troopers usually perform what seems to be a thankless job, so I just wanted to take to opportunity to say thank you.

Joshua Lewis

Please pass this on to a person who can pat Tpr. Melo on the back! My daughter, who is 95 percent deaf and never before in an accident, was driving home when her car was disabled after it was struck by a flying tire from a pickup truck. Our daughter, other than being extremely shaky and upset, was untouched. And, thank goodness Tpr. Melo came to her rescue. He was very patient and calmed her down. He called me and explained that she was okay and let us know exactly how to find them. While he was waiting on us, he even called AAA. I realize that this was part of Tpr. Melo's job, but the kind of helpfulness that he showed to our daughter and also to us was genuine and from the heart. I am sure you hear lots of disgruntled comments, but please pass on this "thank you" to Tpr. Melo.

Debbi Dunlap

State Trooper of the Year



Nicholas Lewis

As several past winners of the State Trooper of the Year Award looked on, Colonel Richard Collins announced that Tpr. Nicholas Lewis, Portsmouth, is the Patrol's 2008 State Trooper of the Year. The award was given during the Patrol's Annual Awards Ceremony in Columbus on February 13. The announcement also marked a clean sweep for the Portsmouth Post as Disp. Sonia Banks won State Dispatcher of the Year (*please see page 11*), marking the first time in Patrol history that the State Trooper of the Year and the State Dispatcher of the Year have come from the same post.

Tpr. Lewis was recognized for his outstanding work during 2008. He is a leader at his post, where his fellow troopers voted him Post Trooper of the

Year. Several coworkers noted Tpr. Lewis' efforts to make Portsmouth and Scioto County a safer place to live and work.

Having grown up in Scioto County, Tpr. Lewis said his decision to become a state trooper was based in his desire to make a difference in his community. He said the most rewarding part of his job is, "knowing that I've helped someone."

Tpr. Lewis won the 2007 State Criminal Patrol Award and is consistently a leader across the state in criminal patrol activities. He has personally contributed to a significant reduction in the activity of drug carriers in Scioto County. Lt. Mike Crispin explained the importance of this reduction within the county: "Tpr. Lewis sets the example for how criminal patrol directly impacts traffic safety and crash reduction."

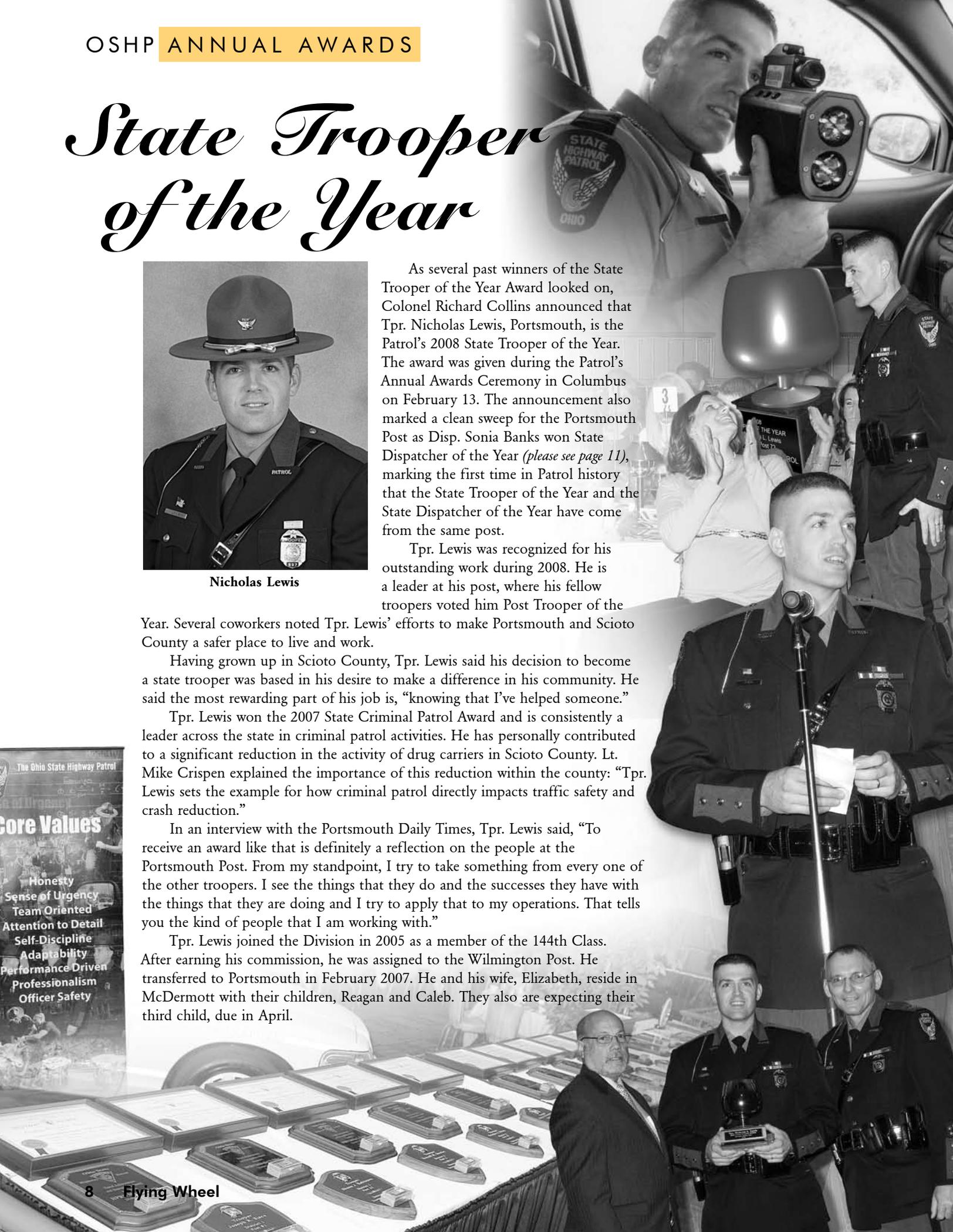
In an interview with the Portsmouth Daily Times, Tpr. Lewis said, "To receive an award like that is definitely a reflection on the people at the Portsmouth Post. From my standpoint, I try to take something from every one of the other troopers. I see the things that they do and the successes they have with the things that they are doing and I try to apply that to my operations. That tells you the kind of people that I am working with."

Tpr. Lewis joined the Division in 2005 as a member of the 144th Class. After earning his commission, he was assigned to the Wilmington Post. He transferred to Portsmouth in February 2007. He and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in McDermott with their children, Reagan and Caleb. They also are expecting their third child, due in April.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol

Core Values

- Honesty
- Sense of Urgency
- Team Oriented
- Attention to Detail
- Self-Discipline
- Adaptability
- Performance Driven
- Professionalism
- Officer Safety



Mendenhall's work with students earns Chiaramonte Award



Jeremy Mendenhall

The Chiaramonte Award was established to recognize troopers' dedication to humanitarian efforts, both professionally and personally. Sgt. Jeremy Mendenhall, Zanesville, earned recognition for his commitment to educating young people about personal responsibility and making good choices.

Since 2005, Sgt. Mendenhall has been a driving force behind an annual educational event known as IMPACT.

While serving at the Athens Post, he began working with Reed and Baur Insurance in Athens to create an educational program geared toward high school students.

What began as a modest pre-prom mock fatal crash event at Athens High School has grown into a dynamic presentation with nationally recognized speakers staged at Ohio University. IMPACT 2008 drew more than 6,000 students from 31 schools in southeastern Ohio. In addition to a number of attention-grabbing happenings at every event, students are offered a sobering look at what can happen when poor choices are made regarding drugs and alcohol, poor driving habits and peer pressure.

As the IMPACT program has grown, so has the time and effort required to plan the annual events. Each year, Sgt. Mendenhall devotes countless hours to fundraising and planning for the program. The number of schools attending grows each year, and reviews from the students, teachers and school

administrators have been extremely positive.

In addition to the IMPACT program, Sgt. Mendenhall has volunteered his time with the Ohio Troopers Coalition and Special Olympics. He is a member of Albany Baptist Church where he has served as a deacon in charge of care ministries to provide assistance to those in need. He also is a member of Hunters Feeding the Hungry and has donated venison he harvested to help feed the homeless.

Sgt. Mendenhall is a member of the 121st Class. He and his wife, Amy, have two children, Amber and Drew.



Sgt. Mendenhall conducts a commercial vehicle inspection.

Officers who rescued woman from burning vehicle win Merrell

Sgt. Matthew Witmer and Tpr. Byron Foxx each received the Patrol's highest award for valor, the O.W. Merrell Meritorious Service Award, for their heroic actions at a crash in Medina.

On December 11, 2008, Sgt. Witmer was the first responder to a serious, injury crash on State Route 3 at Interstate 71 in Medina. At the scene, he found one of the vehicles involved in the crash was on fire with a woman trapped inside.

Sgt. Witmer quickly assessed that the victim was trapped under the dashboard with serious injuries to both legs. As the smoke and fire intensified, Sgt. Witmer and a bystander immediately began efforts to free the victim from the vehicle.

Meanwhile, Tpr. Foxx arrived on the scene. As the fire began to move into the passenger compartment of the vehicle, Tpr. Foxx used the fire extinguisher from his patrol car to suppress the fire and keep the victim from being burned.

After several minutes of intense effort, Sgt. Witmer and the bystander were able to free the woman from the vehicle. The three men moved the victim to safety just as the passenger compartment became totally engulfed by flames.

The Merrell Award is named for O.W. Merrell, who was the director of the Ohio Department of Highways in 1933, the year the Ohio State Highway



Matthew Witmer



Byron Foxx

Patrol was founded. As the Merrell Award winners, Witmer and Foxx each received a certificate and an engraved ring.

Sgt. Witmer and Tpr. Foxx also were honored at a ceremony in Medina on February 6 (*please see story on page 16*).

Jesse earns Blue Max Award



Daniel Jesse

The Blue Max Award winner is the officer who recovers the most stolen vehicles with apprehensions during the year. Tpr. Daniel Jesse, Ashtabula, is the 2008 Blue Max Award winner.

Tpr. Jesse recovered 16 stolen vehicles and apprehended 18 individuals, charging 17 suspects with auto theft related charges. The total recovered property value for these apprehensions was \$97,940.

He recovered a 2008 Chevrolet valued at \$18,000 after he stopped the suspect driver for failure to slow down and move over for a stopped public safety vehicle. Upon approaching the vehicle, Tpr. Jesse detected the odor of raw marijuana. A probable cause search revealed six pounds of marijuana in the vehicle. Contact with the rental company that owned the vehicle also revealed that the suspect did not have permission to use the car.

Tpr. Jesse is a member of the 142nd Class and has served at Ashtabula since May 2004. He resides in Ashtabula.

Laughlin wins Criminal Patrol



Neil Laughlin

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

The winner for 2008 is Tpr. Neil Laughlin, Mt. Gilead, who finished the year with 58 felony cases and 103 felony arrests.

During one stop on Interstate 71, Tpr. Laughlin apprehended three suspects who were found to be trafficking 144 balloons of black tar heroin, 82 balloons of brown powder heroin and three balloons of powder cocaine. Another stop yielded three pounds of marijuana. In addition to cases involving bulk amounts of heroin and heroin trafficking, he also had multiple weapons cases and seizures of a raw marijuana plant, crack cocaine and psilocybin mushrooms.

He is a member of the 137th Class and has served at Mt. Gilead since February 2007. He resides in Mansfield.

State Trooper Recognition Award goes to Richard Wells



Richard Wells

Tpr. Richard Wells, a plainclothes investigator assigned to Massillon District Headquarters, won the 2008 State Trooper Recognition Award.

The Trooper Recognition Award recognizes the work of troopers whose assignments fall outside Trooper of the Year consideration. Besides plainclothes investigator, some examples of the assignments of troopers in this category included load limit inspector, canine handler

and motor vehicle inspector.

In addition to his responsibilities as a plainclothes investigator and the Division's liaison with the Lorain Correctional Facility, Tpr. Wells is the primary investigator assigned to investigate salvage title issues at the Seville salvage title facility.

He also is a nationally-recognized instructor in several important areas. His expertise in critical incident training, identity theft and computers, and his willingness and desire to share his knowledge with others has proved beneficial to the Patrol and to law enforcement agencies nationwide.

In 2008, Tpr. Wells agreed to co-develop and teach the new Officer Involved Shooting course while maintaining his full institution case load. He also helped develop the new

Basic Criminal Investigation course.

As a result, he donated many hours of his personal time. Tpr. Wells' supervisor, Sgt. Richard Graber, said, "Tpr. Wells is totally unselfish and will do whatever is necessary to get the job done."

District Trooper Recognition Award Winners

- FindlayRobert Sellers, *portable load limit inspector*
- BucyrusRosalee Swart, *portable load limit inspector*
- Massillon..... Richard Wells, *plainclothes investigator*
- WarrenMichael Landers, *canine handler*
- PiquaJames Boyssel, *plainclothes investigator*
- Columbus.....Jason Allison, *commercial enforcement*
- Cambridge.....Laura Taylor, *plainclothes investigator*
- Wilmington... William Wilson, *commercial enforcement*
- Jackson.....Lee Burnem, *motor vehicle inspector*
- Berea Thomas Shevlin, *plainclothes investigator*
- GHQ..... Lolitta Snow, *Capitol Operations*

State Dispatcher of the Year goes to Portsmouth's Sonia Banks



Sonia Banks

During a critical incident at a local school early in 2008, Portsmouth Disp. Sonia Banks efficiently and successfully helped coordinate communication among multiple agencies and assisted with direction and control of two crime scenes. Her performance that day was much like any other: calm, capable, professional and always maintaining officer safety as her primary concern.

Many of her coworkers praised her consistent enthusiasm for her job. According to Tpr. Stephen Crabtree, "She takes the extra steps she is not required to take, does her own investigative work and is usually able to dig up useful information which otherwise would not have been found."

Sgt. Karla Taulbee echoed that sentiment: "I have heard some surprised voices on the radio when Sonia starts to relay information she had taken upon herself to locate."

Disp. Banks' technical knowledge also is laudable and she capably uses all of the resources available to her when needed. The critical incident mentioned above involved an active shooter in a Portsmouth elementary school. Portsmouth post commander Lt. Mike Crispin said, "It was as if Disp. Banks had attended the Direct to Threat training herself as she knew exactly what the units needed and when they needed it."

In addition to her regular duties, Disp. Banks also is actively involved in participating in special details such as school speech details, Shop with a Cop, and other post activities.

Disp. Banks joined the Division in 2003 and has served at Portsmouth throughout her career. She is a lifelong resident of Scioto County and resides in Minford with her husband, Chris, and their two sons, Eli and Pierce.



Disp. Sonia Banks assists with Shop with a Cop for the Portsmouth Post.

New method determines Electronic Technician Team of the Year

In 2008, the Electronic Technician Team award was revised to allow for the award receipts to be selected by their peers. The entire field of technicians was given ballots to cast their votes for the best Electronic Technician 3, Electronic Technician 2 and Electronic Technician 1. The following attributes were considered:

- Has the technical knowledge to get the job done and the drive to follow it through to completion.
- Maintains good morale and gets along well with others.
- Communicates with others clearly and convincingly.
- Demonstrates resourcefulness and an enthusiastic work attitude.
- Best exemplifies the Division's Core Values including honesty, sense of urgency, team oriented, attention to detail, self-discipline, adaptability, performance driven, professionalism and officer safety.

The winners for 2008 were from General Headquarters Central Install. ET3 Dana Reasoner joined the Division in 1993. He demonstrates pride in his work on the communication equipment and is often sought out by his



Dana Reasoner



Richard Newsome



Peter Flavin

peers for his knowledge of the MARCS radio system.

ET2 Richard Newsome began his Patrol career as a maintenance repair worker at the Academy in 1993. He was promoted to electronic technician at Central Install in 1998. He is known for accommodating the unique installs requested by the Patrol staff.

ET1 Peter Flavin joined the Division in 2004 after working with electronics in the U.S. Navy. He takes a great deal of pride in his work and attempts to go above and beyond whenever possible.

Paul Gerke wins Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Award



Paul Gerke

Tpr. Paul Gerke, Hiram, won the Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector of the Year Award.

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

Tpr. Gerke joined the Division in 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He has served at the Hiram Post on the Ohio Turnpike since 2002. He and his wife, Valerie, reside in Niles.

District Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Award Winners

- Findlay MCEI Douglas Vansickle
- Bucyrus MCEI John Huffman
- Massillon MCEI Thomas Michael
- Warren. MCEI Terry Maffitt
- Piqua. MCEI Gerald Miller
- Columbus. MCEI Donald Brane
- Cambridge MCEI James Underation
- Wilmington MCEI Jack Goins
- Jackson MCEI Anthony Lester
- Berea. Tpr. Paul Gerke

Roger Workman, Arthur Kitzmiller win Employee Recognition Awards

Maintenance Repair Worker 2 Roger Workman and Systems Analyst 1 Arthur Kitzmiller won the Patrol's Employee Recognition Awards, which honor employees whose positions fall outside the sworn officer and communications categories.

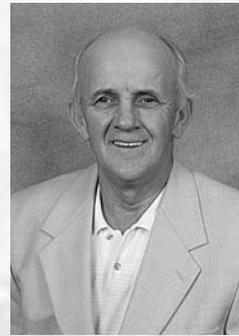
Workman, who is assigned to the Xenia Post, is the 2008 Employee Recognition Award winner from the districts.

In 2008, MRW Workman volunteered his skills as a contractor to help the Wilmington District prepare three new dispatch centers. His knowledge and skills saved the Division time and money in the installation of

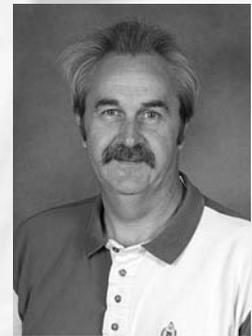
new counters and work stations. Those who know Roger say his performance throughout this project is characteristic of his overall work habits.

Kitzmiller works at GHQ in the Office of Technology and Communication Services. He won the overall Employee Recognition Award from among the GHQ sections.

According to Captain Bob Markowski, "Art's commitment to his duties and ownership of the safety of our troopers and all law enforcement has been a hallmark to his work ethic since he began his service to



Roger Workman



Arthur Kitzmiller

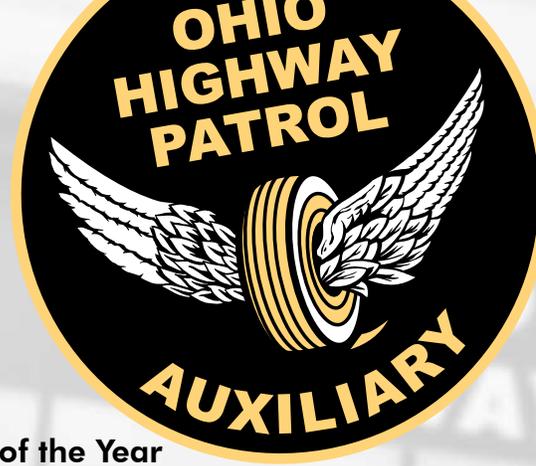
the Division." His work in 2008 served to increase the information available to officers responding to domestic violence situations and in enforcing laws related to commercial vehicle operations.

District Employee Recognition

- Findlay Mike Hankins
- Bucyrus Franklin Laney
- Massillon..... Richard Bell
- Warren Kimberly Speedy
- Piqua Amy Murphy
- Columbus..... Stacy Mullen
- Cambridge..... Paula Allensworth
- Wilmington Roger Workman
- Jackson..... Eva Ball
- Berea Earl Stovall

GHQ Employee Recognition

- Strategic Services.....Bradley Shaw
- Licensing & Commercial Standards....Wanda Chambers
- Tech. & Comm. ServicesArthur Kitzmiller
- Finance & Logistic ServicesTheresa Taylor
- Training, Selection & Standards James Stumbo
- Field Operations PO2 Virgal Neal



Statewide Auxiliary award winners honored at Patrol ceremony

In addition to awards for employees, Patrol Auxiliary volunteers are also recognized as part of the Division's Annual Awards.

William J. Duffy Award of Excellence

Auxiliary Officer George Moncilovich, Canfield, received the Duffy Award. Moncilovich joined the Auxiliary in February 2006. Since that time, he has been a very active officer. He rides on patrol during all shifts, works the state fair detail, and is a member of the Auxiliary Honor Guard.



George Moncilovich

The Duffy Award is named for the late Aux. Lt. Colonel William Duffy. To be eligible for the award, members of the Auxiliary must have a minimum of 300 volunteer hours per year over three consecutive years, maintain physical fitness and respond to emergency calls and special details when needed. Only nine auxiliary officers met the requirements for the award in 2008.

Auxiliary Officer of the Year

Auxiliary Officer Tom Forbes, Circleville, won the State Auxiliary Officer of the Year Award for his excellence and dedication as a volunteer.



Tom Forbes

Since 1994, Auxiliary Officer Forbes has been involved in every aspect of Auxiliary program. In 2008, he volunteered 940 hours, which included riding on patrol during all shifts, state fair detail, Ohio State football games and other special details. He also was instrumental in training the 2008 Auxiliary Class. He is a previous Auxiliary Officer of the Year winner and also has been awarded the Duffy Award because of his personal sacrifice and outstanding service to the Auxiliary.

AK Steel recognized as 'Partner for Safety' for radio campaign

In conjunction with the Annual Awards, representatives from AK Steel, received a *Partners for Safety* Corporate Award.

In 2008, the Patrol and AK Steel in Butler County partnered to produce radio advertising during WLW sports programming. Through the partnership, AK Steel donated paid radio advertising spots to the Patrol to help promote traffic and public safety topics.

This program allowed the Patrol to submit 30-second scripts for WLW production and broadcast. WLW, located in Cincinnati and owned by Clear Channel Communications, broadcasts using 50,000 watts of power, the maximum allowed for an AM channel broadcaster under current FCC rules. The station's programming also airs all across the United States on XM Satellite Radio. WLW is the flagship radio station for the Cincinnati Reds and a co-flagship station for Cincinnati Bengals football.

The partnership with AK Steel maintained a focus on traffic safety for motorists in Ohio as well as throughout the Midwest during high-profile sports programming on WLW.

The Patrol's nationally recognized *Partners for Safety* initiative successfully blends statewide corporate partnerships with innovative initiatives at the local level. *Partners for Safety*



AK Steel executives Alan McCoy, Jerry Strutz and Heather Wise accept a *Partners for Safety* Corporate Award from Colonel Richard Collins and Henry Guzmán, director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

involves a commitment of operational, public relations and public education activities involving the Patrol and community residents.

A lasting goal of the *Partners for Safety* effort is to promote a safer highway environment, reduce traffic crashes, achieve voluntary compliance of motor vehicle traffic laws and positively impact highway crime at the local level.

2008

Post Troopers and Dispatchers of the Year

Troopers		Dispatchers	Troopers		Dispatchers
Findlay District			Columbus District		
Lima	William Bowers	N/A	Delaware	Joseph Glascox	Jacqueline Miller
Defiance	Ryan Rainsberger	Denise Blue	Lancaster	Christopher Goss	Erica Lanning
Findlay	Kurt Beidelschies	Mary Lute*	Granville	Jermaine Thaxton*	Beverley Wells
Toledo	Shane Borton	N/A	West Jeff.	Matthew Himes	Melissa Baldwin*
Van Wert	Joseph Sisco*	Donna Holman	Mt. Gilead	Neil Laughlin	Johnna Huerth
Bowling Green	Shawn Fosgate	Dorothy Bixler	Circleville	Rustun Schack	Cheryl Ferguson
Bucyrus District			Cambridge District		
Bucyrus	Brandon Spalding	Stephanie Evans	St. Clairsville	Gary Wright	Richard Skelly*
Sandusky	Shaun Robinson*	Pamela Butzin	Cambridge	Shawn Allar	David Spratt
Norwalk	Brian Gockstetter	N/A	Steubenville	Edward Franke	N/A
Marion	Aaron Williams	N/A	Zanesville	Trenas Weaver	N/A
Mansfield	Ryan Randall	Christopher Baker*	New Philly	Logan Putnam	N/A
Fremont	Nathan Henn	N/A	Marietta	Charles Robinson*	N/A
Massillon District			Wilmington District		
Ashland	D. Matthew Dowler*	N/A	Georgetown	Anthony Fox	N/A
Elyria	Cliffton Dowell	N/A	Hamilton	Jeremy Wickman*	N/A
Medina	Daniel Jones	Christine Freund*	Batavia	James Adams	Joseph Darnell*
Canton	Scott Louive	Joanne Caplea	Wilmington	Jeremy Priest	Sarah May
Wooster	Todd Roberts	Elaine Shaffer	Xenia	Bradley Huffman	N/A
			Lebanon	Timothy Hall	Barbara Brookover
Warren District			Jackson District		
Ashtabula	Ricky Caraway	Stanley Wnoroski	Athens	Steven Daugherty	Suzanne Dicken
Lisbon	Kevin Thompson	Cheryl Smith	Gallipolis	Nicholas Lunsford	Regina Vaughn
Chardon	Kevin Harris	Lynnette Bramley	Jackson	Paul Mercer	John Young
Canfield	Jason Fantone	N/A	Ironton	Robert McClelland	Gilbert Leblanc
Ravenna	John Lamm	Sheri Smith	Chillicothe	Aaron Morgan	Kyle Lewis
Warren	Douglas Bolen*	Michelle Higgins*	Portsmouth	Nicholas Lewis**	Sonia Banks**
Piqua District			Berea District		
Wapakoneta	John Westerfield	Krista Conover	Swanton	Jason Lankey	
Springfield	Ronald Simmons	Justin Booher	Milan	Timothy Hoffman*	
Piqua	Chris Coverstone*	Marsha Carey	Hiram	Christopher Barnes	
Dayton	Steven Ilo	Kari Root*	Berea DHQ		Michele Krichbaum*
Marysville	Kathleen Durham	Douglas Webb			

* District Winners **State Winners

GHQ

Post 98

Teri Bridges

2008 Blue Max Program Awards

Four Bolt Winners

Tpr. David Brown
Tpr. William Davis
Tpr. Timothy Grigsby
Tpr. Robert McClelland

Three Bolt Winners

Tpr. Keith Allen
Tpr. James Baker
Tpr. John Baranowski
Tpr. Penny Beaty
Tpr. Ricky Caraway
Tpr. Luke Forshey

Tpr. Jason Halstead
Tpr. Scott Mann
Tpr. Daniel Moran
Tpr. Michael Phipps
Tpr. Troy Sexton
Tpr. Dwayne Shephard

Tpr. Kyle Shirer
Tpr. David Slanker
Tpr. Shaun Smart
Tpr. Ryan Stanley
Tpr. Nathan Ward

2008 Criminal Patrol Awards

These officers earned Certificates of Recognition for achieving at least five felony case investigations that resulted in felony arrests.

Tpr. Shawn Allar
Tpr. Rachel Ankeney
Tpr. Frank Applegate
Tpr. Paul Appleman
Tpr. Jason Archer
Tpr. Stacey Arnold
Tpr. James Baker
Tpr. Joshua Baker
Tpr. Scotty Balcomb
Tpr. Shaun Baskerville
Tpr. Aaron Beaver
Tpr. Kurt Beidelschies
Tpr. Aaron Belcher
Tpr. Aleshia Best
Tpr. Christopher Beyer
Sgt. Jason Bittinger
Tpr. Brian Bost
Tpr. Robert Bradley
Tpr. Tyler Brown
Tpr. Timothy Bullock
Tpr. James Burkhart
Tpr. Jason Cadle
Tpr. Ricky Caraway
Tpr. Tyler Carr
Tpr. Eric Caudill
Tpr. David Chamberlin
Sgt. Richard Chesar
Tpr. Philip Clemons
Tpr. Shawn Cook
Tpr. Tiffany Coriell
Tpr. Stephen Crabtree
Tpr. Aaron Crawford
Tpr. James Cress
Tpr. Jeffrey Crook
Tpr. Steven Daugherty
Tpr. William Davis
Tpr. James Davis
Tpr. Jonathan Davis
Sgt. Kevin Dillard
Tpr. David Dingeman

Tpr. Clifton Dowell
Tpr. Darrell Dowler
Tpr. Matthew Dyer
Tpr. Daniel Edelbrock
Tpr. Timothy Ehrenborg
Tpr. Sean Eitel
Tpr. Michael Ervin
Tpr. Brad Evans
Tpr. Jason Fantone
Tpr. Luke Forshey
Tpr. Anthony Fox
Tpr. Byron Foxx
Tpr. Richard Gable
Tpr. Matthew Geer
Tpr. Joseph Glascox
Tpr. Nickolas Goodnite
Tpr. David Grooms
Tpr. Nathan Haas
Tpr. Troy Hale
Tpr. Brian Hawkins
Tpr. Jason Hayes
Tpr. Robert Hayslip
Tpr. Nathan Henn
Tpr. Matthew Himes
Tpr. Rocky Hise
Tpr. Nick Hoffman
Tpr. Timmothy Hoffman
Tpr. Coby Holloway
Sgt. John Howard
Tpr. Dexter Howard
Tpr. Danny Howard
Tpr. Delmer Hurd
Sgt. Dana Hutton
Tpr. Jacques Illanz
Tpr. Steven Ilo
Sgt. Robert Jacks
Tpr. Daniel Jesse
Tpr. Nicholas Johnson
Tpr. Michael Jordan
Tpr. Jeffrey Kaess

Sgt Christopher Kelley
Tpr. Kevin Kobi
Tpr. Michael Landers
Tpr. Rusty Lanning
Tpr. Neil Laughlin
Tpr. Nicholas Lewis
Tpr. Scott Louive
Tpr. Kyle Mackie
Tpr. Bruce Mac Laine
Tpr. Johnnie Maier
Tpr. Brian Mamere
Tpr. Jerrold March
Tpr. Allen Marcum
Tpr. Shawn Martin
Tpr. Robert McClelland
Tpr. Sean McLaughlin
Tpr. Mark McNeely
Tpr. Raul Melo
Tpr. Richard Menges
Tpr. Jason Metzger
Tpr. Theresa Mikesh
Tpr. Shawn Milburn
Tpr. Aaron Morgan
Tpr. Jason Murfield
Tpr. David Norman
Tpr. Anthony Percy
Tpr. Corey Pennington
Tpr. Patrick Pfouts
Tpr. Michael Phipps
Tpr. Vernon Pickering
Tpr. Kyle Pohlable
Tpr. Craig Polasky
Tpr. Melanie Provenzano
Tpr. Jack Reno
Tpr. Todd Roberts
Tpr. Ryan Robirds
Tpr. Mandi Rodriguez
Tpr. Alejo Romero
Tpr. Dallas Root
Tpr. Bobby Rose

Tpr. Michael Royko
Tpr. Isaac Saunders
Tpr. Jody Sawyers
Tpr. Rustun Schack
Tpr. Jeremy Schuldt
Tpr. Benjamin Seabolt
Tpr. Dwayne Shephard
Tpr. Kyle Shirer
Tpr. Joseph Sisco
Tpr. David Slanker
Tpr. Shaun Smart
Tpr. Joel Smith
Sgt. Chris Smith
Tpr. James Sparkman
Tpr. Lee Sredniawa
Tpr. Harley Steppenbacker
Tpr. Heath Strawser
Tpr. David Stuart
Tpr. Adam Throckmorton
Sgt. Timothy Timberlake
Tpr. Andrew Topp
Tpr. Michael Trader
Tpr. Robert VanDyke
Tpr. Ricky Vitte
Tpr. Terrence Vollmer
Tpr. Glendon Ward
Tpr. Nathan Ward
Tpr. Christopher Ward
Tpr. Jerad White
Tpr. Jeremy Wickman
Tpr. Aaron Williams
Tpr. Michael Wilson
Tpr. Adrian Wilson
Tpr. Gary Wolfe
Sgt. Scott Wyckhouse

Superintendent's Citation of Merit

Sgt. Matthew Witmer and Tpr. Byron Foxx, Medina, each received the Superintendent's Citation of Merit for their heroic actions at a crash in Medina. The officers also won the O.W. Merrell Award for this incident (please see story, page 9).

On December 11, 2008, Sgt. Witmer was the first responder to a serious, injury crash on State Route 3 at Interstate 71 in Medina. At the scene, he found one of the vehicles involved in the crash was on fire with a woman, later identified as Deborah Berry, trapped inside.

Sgt. Witmer quickly assessed that the victim was trapped under the dashboard with serious injuries to both legs. Berry later told the Medina Gazette, "I couldn't scoot over. I couldn't turn around. We had a full tank of gas. They didn't know if the car was going to blow up."

As the smoke and fire intensified, Sgt. Witmer and a bystander immediately began efforts to free Berry from the vehicle.

Meanwhile, Tpr. Foxx arrived on the scene. As the fire began to move into the passenger compartment of the vehicle, Tpr. Foxx used the fire extinguisher from his patrol car to suppress the fire and keep the victim from being burned.

After several minutes of intense effort, Sgt. Witmer and the bystander were able to free the woman from the vehicle. The three men moved the



From right: Colonel Richard Collins, Sgt. Matthew Witmer, Tpr. Byron Foxx, and state Rep. William Batchelder at a ceremony to honor the heroism of Witmer and Foxx at the Medina Post on February 6.

victim to safety just as the passenger compartment became totally engulfed by flames.

Berry told the Gazette: "They lifted

me and they saved me. It makes you so much more aware of what they do and the danger they put themselves in to take care of us."

Ohio House honors officers

Also in recognition of their heroism, Sgt. Witmer and Tpr. Foxx received special recognition from the Ohio House of Representatives. Under the sponsorship of state Rep. William Batchelder of Medina, both officers were recognized as "outstanding Ohioans" and presented with framed letters signed by Batchelder and Ohio Speaker of the House Armond Budish.

At a ceremony at the Medina Post on February 6, Batchelder said, "Troopers are special people. The beautiful thing about it is all the troopers out there would have done the same thing without question. The courage they showed is exemplary of all the troopers of the Highway Patrol."

Certificate of Recognition

Dispatcher Supervisor Angie Armstrong, Columbus Communications Center, earned a Certificate of Recognition for her skilled handling of an emergency call that ultimately led to the rescue of a woman attempting suicide.

On September 8, 2008, Dispatcher Supervisor (DS) Armstrong answered a call from a woman using a cellular telephone. The caller stated she had cut her wrists and was bleeding. DS Armstrong convinced the caller to put the razor blades in the back of her vehicle so she didn't try to cut herself again and urged the woman to try to stop the bleeding.

After obtaining the woman's cell phone

number, other dispatchers worked to determine the caller's location. DS Armstrong talked to the caller about her family, her job and her hobbies, providing the other dispatchers time to locate the caller through her cell phone. Within minutes of confirming the caller's approximate location, the woman disconnected the call.

Thanks to information provided by DS Armstrong and her coworkers, officers from the Harrison County Sheriff's Office and the Cadiz Police Department were able to locate the caller, who was then taken to a local hospital for treatment.



Angie Armstrong

Certificate of Recognition

Tprs. Jason Lankey, Brock Matthews, Rodney Bingman and Brian Foltz, Swanton, and **Disp. Linda Magrey**, Berea Communications Center, received Certificates of Recognition for their skilled handling of an emergency notification that led to the rescue of a two-year-old kidnapping victim.

On October 28, 2008, Disp. Magrey received information that a vehicle involved in the abduction of a child had entered the Ohio Turnpike eastbound from Indiana. She immediately provided a description of the vehicle to troopers working that area of the Turnpike while other law enforcement authorities tracked the vehicle electronically through cell phone use by suspects in the vehicle.

Tpr. Lankey located the vehicle near the Maumee Interchange in Lucas County and initiated a traffic stop. With assistance from Tprs. Matthews, Bingman, and Foltz, three suspects were taken into custody without incident and the child was rescued unharmed.

Subsequent investigation revealed one of the suspects, the victim's father, had made arrangements to leave the country with the young girl. Thanks to the efforts of Patrol personnel, the child was reunited with her mother and family and returned to her home in Illinois.



Jason Lankey



Brock Matthews



Rodney Bingman



Brian Foltz



Linda Magrey

Driver Exam Station Supervisors Debra Infante, Findlay District, and **Rebecca Swink**, Massillon District, received Certificates of Recognition for their leadership in developing and implementing new measures to increase efficiency and security when issuing temporary driving permits, commercial driver licenses and motorcycle endorsements.

DXSS Swink and DXSS Infante were recruited to assist with the DX/BASS (Business Application Service System) project to eliminate paper temporary permits. Their participation required extensive travel and many hours of diligent work utilizing their expertise in driver licensing processes and issues. They created training manuals and conducted training for all DX personnel statewide, and also represented the Division in meetings with other affected agencies.



From right: Colonel Richard Collins, Capt. Skip Dodd, DXSS Debra Infante, AO2 Robyn Darden, DXSS Rebecca Swink, and Major Robert Brooks.

Ace Award

Tpr. Rachel Ankeney, Dayton, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$29,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn her first Ace Award.

She recovered a 2004 GMC valued at \$22,000 after she stopped the vehicle for a traffic violation. The suspect driver subsequently was arrested for OVI and was found to be the subject of a warrant through the Dayton Police Department. A search of the vehicle, which was found to be stolen, also revealed drug paraphernalia.



Rachel Ankeney

Tpr. Timothy Bullock, Springfield, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$34,800 and apprehended seven suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

His fourth recovery came when he stopped a vehicle for an equipment violation and arrested the driver for DUS. While searching the suspect, Tpr. Bullock found a small bag containing white powder, which the suspect admitted was cocaine. The suspect also did not have permission to use the vehicle.



Timothy Bullock

Ace Award

Tpr. James Davis, Piqua, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$29,800 and apprehended nine suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

He made two recoveries after notifications from other agencies that the stolen vehicles were likely in the area and recovered two others while performing routine registration checks on vehicles in a rest area. His fifth recovery came as he observed a stolen vehicle while on patrol and initiated a traffic stop. During that recovery, he also located a juvenile who had been reported missing from Findlay.



James Davis

Tpr. David Grooms, Georgetown, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$20,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn the Ace Award.

He made two recoveries through crash investigations. In another case, he arrested the suspect driver for OVI in addition to unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, and in yet another case, he found the suspect driver did not have a valid license in addition to not having permission to use the suspect vehicle.



David Grooms

Tpr. Matthew Himes, West Jefferson, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$32,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

He arrested three of the suspects for OVI before his investigations revealed that in each case the suspect also did not have permission to have the vehicle he was driving. In another case, a suspect he arrested for DUS admitted that he had swallowed heroin to prevent Tpr. Himes from finding it.



Matthew Himes

Tpr. Aaron Morgan, Chillicothe, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$8,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

He recovered a 1995 Chevrolet when he discovered the suspect driver asleep at the wheel along a Township Road with the vehicle in drive. The suspect was subsequently arrested for OVI and also found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia.



Aaron Morgan

Tpr. Ryan Randall, Mansfield, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$28,400 and apprehended six suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

He recovered a GMC truck after he noticed the suspect driver acting suspiciously. Tpr. Randall initiated contact with the suspect driver and his passenger and found the passenger was in possession of marijuana and also the subject of an active warrant from the Shelby Police Department. The suspect driver was subsequently arrested for OVI, which was the suspect's seventh OVI offense in the last 20 years.



Ryan Randall

Tpr. James Sparkman, Batavia, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$33,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

Of the five suspect drivers Tpr. Sparkman apprehended, none had a valid driver license, and four were charged with OVI. Two of the suspects were also charged with drug trafficking, and another was found to be in the United States illegally.



James Sparkman

Tpr. Matthew Them, Mt. Gilead, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$44,000 and apprehended eight suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

In one instance, Tpr. Them attempted to stop a suspect driver for a traffic violation when a pursuit ensued. The driver ultimately crashed the vehicle and two suspects were taken into custody. The suspect driver was the subject of outstanding felony and misdemeanor warrants and both suspects were charged with felony drug possession.



Matthew Them

Tpr. Michael Wilson, Granville, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$26,245 and apprehended nine suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

In four of the cases, the suspect driver and the suspect passengers also were found in possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia. In one case, the suspect driver admitted to using drugs prior to taking his girlfriend's car and their two-year-old daughter without permission.



Michael Wilson

Davies is FBI National Academy graduate

S/Lt. **Cory Davies**, Massillon District, graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, on December 16, 2008. The National Academy program provides 10 weeks of advanced investigative, management and fitness training for selected law enforcement officers with proven records of professionalism.



Cory Davies

It's mission is, "to support, promote and enhance the personal and professional development of law enforcement leaders by preparing them for complex, dynamic and contemporary challenges through innovative techniques, facilitating excellence in education and research and forging partnerships throughout the world."

Davies is a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He joined the Division in 1991.

Employees earn graduate degrees



Carl Roark



Dianna White



Randall Bogue

Three Patrol employees earned graduate degrees from Franklin University in Columbus, on January 4:

S/Lt. Carl Roark, Finance and Logistic Services, earned a Master's in Business Administration with a focus on Financial Leadership.

Lt. Dianna White, Finance and Logistic Services, earned a Master's in Business Administration.

NA2 Randall Bogue, LEADS, also earned a Master's in Business Administration.

Also earning a Master's in Business Administration from Franklin was **Retired Major Lisa Taylor**.

Capitol Operations Unit

—Continued from page 5

director who oversees safety and security functions in that building. Commanders also conduct meetings and tabletop exercises about how to handle various incidents and how to set-up and implement emergency response plans.

It is imperative all officers assigned to the Statehouse are alert and ready to respond to a variety of critical incidents. As is the case in any area of law enforcement, ongoing training is the key to preparedness for the real thing. In addition to daily and weekly roll-call training, officers assigned to Capitol Operations undergo detailed bi-annual training in a variety of areas including: Direct-to-Threat, Command Post Operations, Firearms & Close Quarter Tactics, Evacuation Considerations and Procedures, Lethal and Less-Lethal Use of Force, PPE Training for Dispatchers and Secretary, Homicide Bomber and Suspicious Package Operations.

Open line of communication

Internal and external communications for security personnel and build-

ing occupants is integral to successful security operations. We have implemented a way to dramatically improve our ability to communicate critical information to those we serve, which is modeled after systems implemented on college campuses following the Virginia Tech shooting.

The system, called the Law Enforcement - Security Notification (LE-SN) consists of two elements: First, we have the 24/7 ability to send text messages regarding critical incidents in the Statehouse campus area to cellular telephones and other devices of those who work within these facilities; and second, we have the ability to send less urgent information to the e-mail addresses of those who work in the area.

Additional internal communications include each officer being provided a pocket schedule and information card consisting of both building and legislative calendars, as well as other useful information pertinent for that week. An electronic copy of that information is also forwarded to all Highway Patrol command staff in the Columbus

area for preparatory purposes.

Visibility and Service

All officers involved with high-profile building security assignments must realize they serve two different but vital roles. The first is the more recognized role as a member of the security team, responsible for maintaining safety and security in our assigned buildings.

The second role is less known but extremely important to the success of the organization. That is the role of an ambassador to represent and reflect the values of their government (or agency). As such, their words, actions and demeanor are a direct reflection on not only themselves but their agency, their unit and their government.

Professionalism and courtesy have been the hallmarks of the Ohio State Highway Patrol for 75 years. All troopers are expected to be polite, courteous and professional in all dealings with the public and their peers. Capitol Operations officers are expected to take that concept even further.

Staff Lieutenant Thomas Tornabene



Thomas Tornabene

S/Lt. Thomas Tornabene, Berea District, retired January 16 after more than 31 years of service. He is a member of the 101st Class and earned his commission in January 1978. He served 13 years at Elyria where he was Post Trooper of the Year five times and District Trooper of the Year for 1990.

He earned a promotion to sergeant in October 1991 and served as an assistant commander at Chardon. After his promotion to lieutenant in 1994, he served as commander of the Ashtabula and Elyria posts. His promotion to staff lieutenant came in March 1999.

In his career, he also earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 15 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Pamela, live in North Olmstead.

Sergeant Lori Landacre



Lori Landacre

With more than 23 years of service, Sgt. Lori Landacre, Xenia, retired on March 13. She trained with the 114th Class, which graduated in September 1985. Her first assignment was to Lima where she served six years before earning a promotion to sergeant in 1991. She served as an assistant post commander at Fremont until July 1992 when she transferred to Xenia.

In her career, she completed advanced training at the University of Louisville Southern Police Institute. She also earned the Saved by the Belt Award and was recognized for 20 years of safe driving. She resides in Jamestown.

Trooper William Dean



William Dean

After more than 31 years of service, Tpr. William Dean, Hiram, retired on February 6. He began his Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at Bucyrus.

He is a member of the 101st Class, and received his commission in January 1978. He served at the Hiram Post on the Ohio Turnpike throughout his career.

He earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 20 years of safe driving. He resides in Newton Falls.

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Richard Virant



Richard Virant

After 30 years of service, MCEI Richard Virant, Warren District LCS, retired January 30.

He joined the Division in 1979 as a motor vehicle inspector. He was promoted to motor carrier enforcement inspector in October 2000. He served in the Warren District throughout his career and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Nancy, reside in Geneva.

Stationary Load Limit Inspector William Frey



William Frey

SLLI William Frey, Warren District LCS, retired January 30 after more than 32 years of service.

In his Patrol career, he also served as a load limit inspector and a motor vehicle inspector.

He and his wife, Nancy, reside in Conneaut.

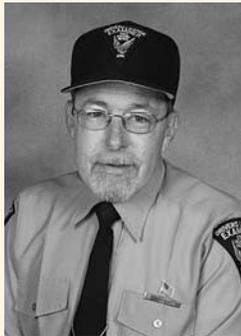
Dispatcher Robin Nicholson



Robin Nicholson

After 10 years of Patrol service, Disp. Robin Nicholson retired on January 30. She joined the Division in April 1998 and served at the Marysville Post from March 1999 until her retirement. She lives in Marysville.

**Driver License Examiner 1
Keith Bowen**



Keith Bowen

After 28 years of service, DX1 Keith Bowen entered disability retirement on January 1. He served at the Mansfield Driver Exam Station throughout his career. He and his wife, Kathy, reside in Mansfield.

**Executive Secretary 1
Libby Jenkins**



Libby Jenkins

ES1 Libby Jenkins, Office of Strategic Services, retired February 27 after more than 35 years of service. She joined the Division in November 1973 and served at GHQ throughout her career in the former Driver and Vehicle Services Section, at the Training Academy and in Strategic Services. She resides in Columbus.

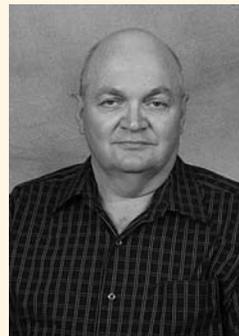
**Driver License Examiner 1
Andrea Johnson**



Andrea Johnson

DX 1 Andrea Johnson, Springfield DX, retired March 31 after 21 years of service. She joined the Patrol in 1987 as a clerk at the Springfield Post and was promoted to driver license examiner in June 1991. She resides in South Vienna.

**Maintenance Repair Worker 2
Clayton Sexton**



Clayton Sexton

After 30 years of service to the state of Ohio, MRW2 Clayton Sexton, Lebanon, retired February 27. He and his wife, Patricia, reside in Xenia.

Researcher Wanda Chambers



Wanda Chambers

Researcher Wanda Chambers retired January 30 after more than 37 years of service to the state of Ohio. She worked in the Patrol's Office of Licensing and Commercial Standards at General Headquarters. She resides in Columbus.

Secretary Patricia Williams



Patricia Williams

After more than 29 years of service, Sec. Patricia Williams retired January 26. She joined the Division in September 1979 and served in the Wilmington District throughout her career. She resides in Wilmington.



Expressing sympathy



Lake L. Allison

Lake L. Allison

Retired Lt. Lake L. Allison, 90, died December 17, 2008, at Robinson Memorial Hospital in Ravenna. He joined the Patrol in 1946 as a member of the 21st Class.

He served at Warren, Medina, Kent and Steubenville prior to his promotion to lieutenant. He was commander at Wooster, Ravenna and Hiram, where he served at the time of his retirement in May 1970.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII and a Pearl Harbor survivor. He is survived by his son, Ronald.



Charles R. King

Charles R. King

Retired Sgt. Charles R. King, 71, passed away on January 25, after an extended illness.

He was a member of the 78th Class and was initially assigned to Jackson where he was Post Trooper of the Year three times and District Trooper of the Year in 1974. He received a promotion to sergeant and assignment to Jackson as an assistant post commander in 1975.

He retired from the Division on January 25, 1991.

He is survived by his wife, Naomi, and sons, Chris and Bradford.



Curtis O. Bell

Curtis O. Bell

Retired Tpr. Curtis O. Bell, 72, passed away February 5 after an extended illness. He joined the Patrol in 1962 with the 59th Class. He retired in December 1991 after serving nearly 30 years at the Medina Post.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah, and children: MCEI Douglas Bell, Massillon District LCS, Gregory, David and Cheryl.



Stanley R. Steiner

Stanley R. Steiner

Retired Tpr. Stanley R. Steiner, 62, died January 20, after a long illness. He was a member of the 85th Class and earned his commission in 1970.

He served at Castalia and Ashland where he was Post Trooper of the Year twice and State Trooper of the Year for 1980. He was serving at Wooster at the time of his retirement in February 1994.

He is survived by his wife, Diane, and children: Gretchen, Michael and Benjamin.



John G. Kark

John G. Kark

Retired Lt. John G. Kark, 85, died December 7, 2008, in Texas.

He was a member of the 21st Class, which graduated in 1946. During his career, he served at Mansfield and the Massillon and Warren district headquarters before transferring to GHQ where he served in Communications and Records and then in Driver and Vehicle Services.

He is survived by his wife, Alice, and children, John and Robin.



Earl L. Vansant

Earl L. Vansant

Retired Lt. Earl L. Vansant, 83, died November 30, 2008, after a brief illness. He was a member of the 25th Class, which graduated in June 1948. He served at Defiance, Findlay, Lima, Akron and Piqua. He commanded the Painesville and Chardon posts for 16 years before his retirement in January 1978.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy, and daughters: Susan, Sally and Diane.

Batavia

Tpr. Marc Glover and Tpr. Sharese Williams participated in the 49th annual Cincinnati Cavalcade of Customs car show at the Cincinnati Convention Center which ran from January 9-11.

Tpr. Glover displayed a patrol car and all of its equipment. Tpr. Williams used the event as a way to make recruitment contacts with the event attendees. Also on display was the memorial IROC which was provided by Tpr. Aaron Cooper.

More than 50,000 people attended the event during the weekend. Tpr. Glover had requested a location in the Convention Center which maximized his exposure to the public. Both the officers received many of positive comments about the equipment that was on display.



Marietta

Officers from the Marietta Post hosted a Law Enforcement/Firefighter Charity Basketball Tournament. Members of several Washington County fire departments and law enforcement agencies converged on Waterford Elementary School to have a little fun and raise money for a good cause. The four teams that played included members of the Barlow and Marietta fire departments and the Marietta Patrol Post.

"It's a chance for all the guys and gals to get together," said Tpr. Steve Roe. "We usually don't see each other unless something bad happens, but this gives us a chance to all get together and have some fun." Roe played basketball at Waterford and coached there for a time. He was able to help reserve the building for the day.

Lt. Mary Pfeifer said they are hoping to have another tournament this spring. All money raised was donated to the Washington County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Correction

Due to a data collection error, these individuals were omitted from a list of retirees on pages 223-225 of the Patrol's 2008 Yearbook:

- Sgt. Michael J. Mann**, retired 03/14/2003
- Lt. Walter E. Poffenbaugh**, retired 04/26/2003
- Lt. Edward P. Waters**, retired 12/04/2003
- Tpr. Matthew M. Manly**, retired 02/05/2004
- Tpr. Michael J. Szabo**, retired 02/09/2004
- Sgt. Scott E. Hunter**, retired 02/28/2004
- Sgt. Philip Hulewat**, retired 06/12/2004
- Tpr. Thomas F. Danilov**, retired 10/16/2004
- Maj. Fred G. Goldstein**, retired 11/20/2004
- S/Lt. Dennis Zwayner**, retired 11/25/2004
- Sgt. Thomas E. Gwinn**, retired 05/28/2006
- Maj. Robert J. Young**, retired 08/06/2006
- Tpr. Michael J. Giuliano**, retired 01/10/2007
- Capt. George T. Maier**, retired 05/19/2007
- ETM Carlton L. Stroop**, retired 06/01/2008

Sworn Promotions

- Staff Lieutenant Morris Hill**, Bucyrus District
- Lieutenant Stephanie Norman**, Bucyrus
- Lieutenant John Tibbs**, Wilmington
- Sergeant David Bailey**, Cambridge
- Sergeant Jeremy Mendenhall**, Zanesville
- Sergeant Michael Munyon**, Circleville
- Sergeant Joseph Wentworth**, Sandusky
- Sergeant James Williams**, Georgetown
- Sergeant Veroman Witcher**, Springfield

Professional Promotions

- Criminalist Lisa Crow**, Crime Lab
- DX1 Earl Roe**, Cambridge DX
- DXS Andrew Webber**, Massillon District

Ironton

On December 19, 2008, Ironton personnel participated in the first Shop with a Cop program organized by the Ironton Post. Tpr. Tiffany Coriell organized the program and worked with South Point Local School District to choose children in need of assistance during the holiday season.

Money was collected from post personnel and other private donations. All funds collected were used to take six children to Wal-Mart in South Point. The program purchased shoes, clothes, coats, gloves and toys for the children.

Officers participating in the program were Tpr. Tiffany Coriell, Lt. Mike Gore, Sgt. John Silvey, Sgt. Joe Baisden, Tpr. Kevin Kobi and Sgt. Chris Smith (Teddy Trooper for the Detail).



The Ironton Post also participated in the 14th Annual Holiday Hospital Visits on December 22, 2008. Post personnel visited all four Tri-State Hospital pediatric departments along with Teddy Trooper (Dips. Mark Duncan). All patients visited were given gift bags that contained coloring books, crayons, yo-yos, stuffed animals and other assorted items.

Units participating in the program were - Tpr. Tiffany Coriell, Sgt. Chris Smith, Lt. Mike Gore and Dispatcher Mark Duncan. A special note - Disp. Duncan has dressed as Teddy Trooper for this program all 14 years of the program.



Steubenville/St. Clairville

On October 26, 2008 the Steubenville and St. Clairville Posts joined forces in Scio to participate in a flag football tournament fund raiser for Cadiz Bidy Football. The tournament consisted of teams from local law enforcement, fire departments and football programs.

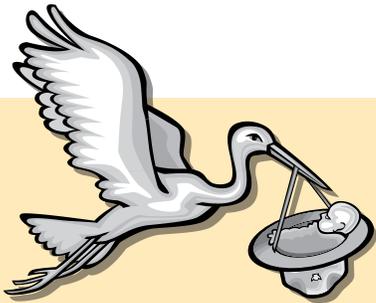
Team OSP squared off against a heavily favored Cadiz Cardinals Football Team in the championship round. Team OSP scored with :47 seconds remaining in the game to take a 13 to 12 lead and the title Top Dogs.

Pictured in the front row from left: Sgt. Shawn Yoho, Missy Yoho, Tpr. Joe Weaver, Tpr. Ed Franke, Eric White, and Casey Mayo. Back row: Sgt. Jim Tracy, Tpr. Robbie Bodo, Tpr. P.J. Pfouts, Tpr. T. J. White and Deputy Todd Davis.

Columbus District

On December 12, 13 and 14, 2008, more than 100 troopers, dispatchers, auxiliaries, fellow DPS employees, family, friends, and Westerville Central High School students volunteered to make the District 6 Troopers Caring/Shop with a Trooper Program a major success. In all, the program distributed \$12,375 to central Ohio children who were recommended by members of the Patrol family or through the Central Ohio Salvation Army. The sponsors included: Meijer, Wal-Mart, Polaris Fashion Place, Sabarro's, Giant Eagle and Ohio Troopers Caring. Through another part of the program, holiday gifts were provided to children at Nationwide Children's Hospital who were receiving treatment that required them to spend time in the hospital during the holidays.

The volunteers and sponsors deserve special recognition because without them, this program would not be the success that it is. Hopefully next year we can continue this great program, so please keep Shop with a Trooper in mind and consider the potential to sponsor children who we have come into contact with during the course of our duties and who have suffered a traumatic or life-changing loss. This program can provide them with needed support and a reminder of the caring that members of the Patrol have while performing their many duties serving the citizens of the state of Ohio. For information contact Lt. Rudy Zupanc at 614-799-3547.



Stork Visits

Tpr. William & Lisa Duerson, Governors Residence, a girl, 12/22/08.
Lieutenant Robin (Springfield) and Tpr. Bo Schmutz, Investigative Services, a girl, 12/25/08.
Tpr. Shaun & Sarah Baskerville, Wooster, a boy, 12/30/08.
Tpr. Brandon & Sharon Pastor, St. Clairsville, a boy, 1/5/09.
Tpr. Richard & Sylvia Anderson, Milan, a boy, 1/6/09.
Tpr. Michael & Sheena Wilson, Granville, a boy, 1/8/09.
Tpr. Josh Hunter & Brooke Edgington, Georgetown, a girl, 1/15/09.

Tpr. Kenneth & Tara Worner, Ravenna, a boy, 1/17/09.
Tpr. Jason & Laura Hofmann, West Jefferson, a boy and a girl, 1/21/09.
Tpr. Aaron & Darla Reimer, Granville, a girl, 1/29/09.
Secretary Kelli & David Partin, Ravenna, a girl, 2/2/09.
Tpr. Christopher & Emily Creech, Lebanon, a boy, 2/2/09.
Tpr. Brian & Carleen Foltz, Swanton, a girl, 2/6/09.
Tpr. Aaron & Magdalene Boggs, Wooster, a boy, 2/7/09.
Sgt. Kelly & Lyndsie Weakley, Licensing & Commercial Standards, a boy, 2/9/09.
Tpr. Rodney & Jessica Ramps, Hiram, a girl, 2/10/09.
Sgt. Ricky & Nicole Vitte, Toledo, a boy, 2/11/09.
Sgt. Terrell & Betsy Campbell, Swanton, a boy, 2/27/09.
Tpr. Mark & Jennifer Wells, Wilmington, a boy, 3/2/09.

While both enjoying and being educated by reading a wonderful book about Lincoln entitled, *With Malice Toward None* - a book given to me by Colonel Collins - there was an interruption. Another book smaller in size came into my reading schedule.

It was about the fighter pilots who fought and won the Battle for Britain in 1940. Of these brave young pilots Winston Churchill declared: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." These young and dedicated pilots took to the sky against overwhelming odds to halt Hitler's plans for the invasion of their homeland. The reading of *With Wings Like Eagles* put history into a new perspective for me as I returned to the account of Lincoln's life and the victory over slavery which was won by a few but committed individuals.

As I put the books aside for a time of reflective thought, my mind went to the operation of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Beginning in 1933 with only 60 patrolman, the newly-formed agency spread out across the entire state to provide safety by enforcing the law in a courteous and committed manner. It can be well stated that many became indebted to a few - and that is still the case today.

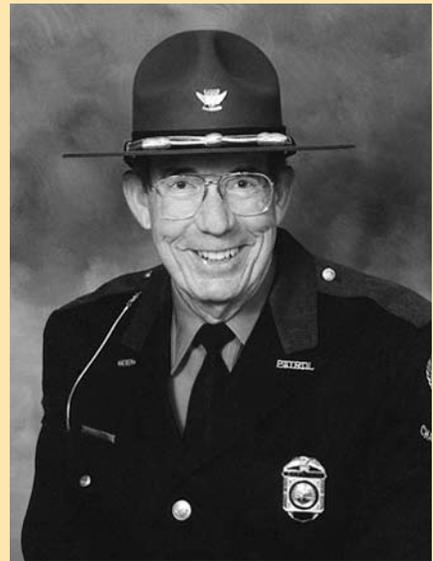
The population has increased, the road system expanded, and the functions assigned to the Patrol have multiplied greatly, even though the number of troopers and officers has increased the truth is that much is

still entrusted to a few - and all of the citizens are given great service. It is not the quantity but the quality which makes the difference. Even though there is the reality of the need for sufficient personnel to cover all the bases. The shortstop, talented though he or she may be, cannot cover the entire infield (baseball terminology). But the courage and commitment of even a few can assure success or victory.

Biblical history reminds us of the importance of the individual. Moses, Joshua, Deborah, Gideon, Ruth, David, Peter and Paul are just a few of the many heroes of faith. They needed others but that need did not keep them from standing firm and stepping forth to make a difference for others.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is an organization which depends upon not only the cooperation of all personnel, but also upon the full commitment of each individual. Lincoln, great as he was, could not have won freedom for the slaves by himself. He needed others to fight with him but he gave it all he could as an individual. One young fighter pilot could not assure the freedom for Britain in 1940 but each one made the contribution necessary to assure victory.

One trooper on the road cannot provide safety and protection for all the citizens of Ohio, but he or she, giving his or her best, will and does make a difference in the endeavor to provide safety and protection in our state. Each one has a responsibility to



fulfill, and the effort of each one makes a difference.

In Isaiah 45 we read the words: "Fear not, I have called you by name. You are mine." (Isaiah 43:1) Yes, this is the Word of God to each of us. But I take the liberty of applying that declaration to all of you who serve as members of OSHP. You are known by name. You are important as an individual to the successful service of the Patrol. Never underestimate the importance of what you do each day (or night). It makes a difference for life today, and for life to be lived in future years.

You are blessed to be a blessing.

Richard D. Ellsworth

Richard D. Ellsworth
Chaplain



A glimpse at what's new and upcoming

SRT trains first responders across Ohio



The Patrol's Special Response Team (SRT) continues to provide Active Shooter Training to both Division and law enforcement personnel across the state of Ohio. To date, the SRT has trained more than 5,000 officers in this critical incident response. The training, which is commonly referred to as "Direct to Threat Response," focuses not on tactical response from SWAT teams, but on response by law enforcement first responders who can mitigate the violence being wrought. The focus is to stop the actions of the suspect and to save as many lives as possible.

Since the Columbine shooting occurred on April 20, 1999, law enforcement has worked to come up with an answer to this type of violence. Through efforts by the SRT, this no-cost training has yielded unprecedented mutual aid among area law enforcement agencies.

Today, the SRT continues to provide this invaluable training across the state. They have recently developed a program that assists all first responders including fire, EMS, EMA and building and school administrators with how to deal with an active shooting incident in their community. This training, titled "Multi-Discipline Active Shooter Response," has been presented to many colleges and schools in the state with overwhelming success.

Patrol to participate in Red Cross blood donor campaign

The Patrol is teaming up with the American Red Cross for this year's 14th Annual Guns-N-Hoses blood donor campaign from June 25 through July 31. The campaign will run in Central Ohio and outlying counties. The Patrol is encouraging all of you, even if you are not in a county that is participating, to go out during trauma season and donate blood. Detailed information on the campaign and how to participate will be distributed mid-May.



**American
Red Cross**

**The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™**



2008 Annual Awards Banquet

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