

FLYING

Vol. 46 No. 3



WHEEL

July - September 2008



OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL





5

Features

U.S. Traffic Fatality Rate 4

Fatalities fall; Ohio remains below national average

Metro Initiatives 5

Impaired drivers, drug violators, and other criminals removed from roads

75th Anniversary 8

Accolades and special events have been part of the Patrol's 75th anniversary year.



8

Departments

Letters 11

Words of appreciation from the public

Awards 12

Employees recognized for investigative work, life-saving actions and auto larceny enforcement

Reflections 14

A look back at the Patrol's partnership with the American Legion

Around the State 22

Patrol personnel work to educate the public, improve operations, stay visible in the community



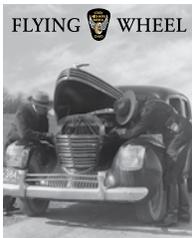
22

Chaplain's Comments 26

Working together, we will achieve goals

On the Cover

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is proud to celebrate 75 years of excellence in service.



Ted Strickland
Governor, State of Ohio

Henry Guzman
Director, Department of Public Safety

Colonel Richard H. Collins
Superintendent, Ohio State Highway Patrol

Office of Strategic Services
Maj. John T. Born
Capt. Brigette E. Charles

Editor
Kandee Tinkham
e-mail: ktinkham@dps.state.oh.us

Staff
Visual Communications Unit
S/Lt. C. Lance Mathess, Gregory J. Wyatt,
Carol M. Holland, LaDonna L. Adams,
Christopher M. Nickell, Laura A. Milem,
Michele R. Vaughan

External Communications Section
Lt. Anthony C. Bradshaw, Jeff Grayson,
Jessica J. Pierson, Bradley Shaw

Photographic Services
Brian S. Kitay, Gary W. Humphries,
Karie J. Randall, Rebecca M. Campbell,
Thomas H. Stiver

Reporters
Findlay District
S/Lt. Michael P. Sharp
Bucyrus District
S/Lt. Chris Zurcher
Massillon District
S/Lt. Joel P. Smith
Warren District
S/Lt. Chester L. Engle
Piqua District
S/Lt. Kenneth J. Kocab
Columbus District
S/Lt. Richard S. Fambro
Cambridge District
S/Lt. Barry W. Donley
Wilmington District
S/Lt. Cliff L. Schaffner
Jackson District
Ex. Sec. 1 Lynne A. Schucker
Berea District
S/Lt. Monte R. Morgan
Training, Selection & Standards
Capt. Andrew J. Stritmatter
Technology & Information Services
AA3 Vicie Reynolds-Bitler
Investigative Services
Capt. Michelle D. Henderson
Licensing & Commercial Standards
Lt. John P. Boster
Finance & Logistic Services
Maj. Peyton L. Watts

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

Since our inception 75 years ago, thousands of individuals have played a role in creating our rich and storied legacy.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is now recognized and accredited as one of the finest law enforcement agencies in the world. Our greatest strength today, and throughout our history, is the commitment and dedication of our troopers, professional staff and Auxiliary.

From the very beginning, our success has been linked to ordinary men and women working together to achieve extraordinary results. We continue to drive crash fatality numbers to historic lows. For months this year we have been running at more than 100 fewer traffic fatalities in Ohio than at the same time last year.

Every day we remove impaired drivers from Ohio roads, seize illegal drugs destined for our communities, and render assistance to motorists in need of aid. We issue driving tests, ensure commercial vehicle and school bus safety, investigate crimes on state owned and leased property, provide dignitary protection for national and international leaders, and so many other things that bring value to Ohio each and every day.

I hope each of you is as proud as I am of these accomplishments. I encourage you to spend time reviewing the amazing results of your hard work which are proudly promoted on our Division's Web site for the world to see, www.statepatrol.ohio.gov.

Your accomplishments are impressive enough when considered alone, but when added to the scores of triumphs realized over the course of our 75-year history, it becomes clear that then and now, the Ohio State Highway Patrol is a genuine value to Ohio citizens and a credit to the cause of law enforcement.

On November 15, 1933, Capt. Lynn Black sent 60 brave young men out from Camp Perry with this message: "At all times remember that promotion of true safety and the welfare of the people of Ohio should inspire and motivate your work."

As your superintendent, I am proud to serve with you, work along side you and be inspired and motivated by the successes you achieve toward making our roads and communities safer.



Colonel Richard H. Collins
Superintendent



Our greatest strength today, and throughout our history, is the commitment and dedication of our troopers, professional staff and Auxiliary.

U.S. traffic fatality rate at an all-time low for second straight year

Despite drop in fatal crash totals and alcohol-related fatalities, motorcycle fatalities continue to rise

The number of people who died on the nation's roads dropped again last year, reaching historically low levels, U.S. Transportation Secretary Mary E. Peters announced recently.

Secretary Peters said that in 2007, the overall number of traffic fatalities fell to 41,059, the lowest number since 1994. In addition, the fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was 1.37, the lowest fatality rate on record, she noted.

The Secretary added that 2.49 million people were injured in highway crashes last year, the lowest seen since the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began collecting injury data in 1988.

"Thanks to safer vehicles, aggressive law enforcement and our efforts, countless families were spared the devastating news that a loved one was not coming home last year," Secretary Peters said. "You can be sure that we're not stopping here, the quest is not over until that bottom line number is zero."

She noted, for example, that motorcycle safety continues to be a problem. Motorcycle fatalities now account for 13 percent of all fatalities and, in 2007 alone, the number of motorcycle riders

Ohio's 2007 traffic fatality rate is 1.13

As the statistics released by NHTSA reinforce, we are helping maintain safety on Ohio roadways. Ohio's 2007 traffic fatality rate of 1.13 is significantly lower than the national rate of 1.37.

Ohio's 2007 traffic crash fatality rate stayed near the historic low set in 2006, and we achieved declines in both rural traffic fatalities, which account for nearly two-thirds of all traffic deaths, and alcohol-related fatalities.

The statistics for fatal and injury crashes among Ohio's youngest drivers also continue to improve. Fatal crashes and injury crashes involving teen drivers ages 15-18 have declined by nearly 30 percent during the past five years – a positive sign that increased vigilance and recent law changes are making an impact in our efforts to keep Ohio's youngest drivers safe.

or passengers killed on the nation's roads increased 6.6 percent over the previous year, the Secretary said.

Secretary Peters emphasized that the Department will continue its efforts to combat impaired driving, increase safety belt use and improve motorcycle safety.

"As these new statistics show, we are making progress, but far too many of our friends, neighbors and family mem-

bers are still getting killed or seriously injured," Secretary Peters said.

NHTSA collects crash statistics annually from the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to produce reports on fatalities and injuries. To view the 2007 report in its entirety, please visit www.nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811017.PDF. A similar report detailing Ohio traffic statistics is available at www.ohiopublicsafety.com.

2008 statistics through August show decline in Ohio traffic fatalities

After a successful 2007, the Patrol is moving forward with efforts to drive down crash numbers in Ohio.

From expanding our metropolitan enforcement partnerships (*please see next page*) to continued vigilance in crash causing violations and areas such as commercial vehicle safety, troopers remain committed to making Ohio's roadways among the safest in the nation. Provisional data from the first eight months of 2008 indicate that our efforts are paying dividends:

- As of September 3, there had been 167 fewer crash fatalities than during the same time period last year (702 in 2007 and 869 in 2008).
- Through August 10, troopers had made 15,658 OVI arrests and 77,876 aggressive driving arrests, including 45,463 arrests for drivers traveling more than 20 mph over the posted speed limit.
- Also through August 10, troopers initiated 354,601

enforcement contacts and 514,583 non-enforcement contacts, including 221,666 motorist assists, in each instance contributing to overall traffic safety.

- Each of this year's major holiday weekends have been safer than last year. Labor Day fatalities were down 42 percent from last year, while the 2008 Memorial Day holiday weekend was the safest on record for the past 38 years.

While analysts agree that higher fuel prices coupled with a decline in vehicle miles traveled have contributed to improved traffic safety, proactive and innovative law enforcement is also saving lives.

Examples include the highly publicized July arrests of nine drivers accused of drag racing on Interstate 71 in Franklin and Delaware counties as well as numerous partnerships with local law enforcement agencies to target areas or behaviors linked to crashes.

Troopers continue highly successful metro enforcement initiatives

Patrol troopers and motor carrier enforcement inspectors were back on roadways in the Montgomery County metro area beginning June 9, working with Dayton Police Department officers in an ongoing initiative to reduce fatal and injury crashes in urban areas, while also apprehending wanted felons and interdicting drugs and weapons.

The Dayton Area Metropolitan Initiative is using a combination of high-visibility enforcement, specialized computer mapping and a strategic public information campaign to promote traffic safety on Montgomery County roads. Notably, Dayton police officers and troopers are working together and patrolling in the area of Interstate 75 within the construction zone on various days of the week between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Last year, Montgomery County had the fourth highest fatal crashes among all Ohio counties, with 52 motorists killed. Of those, 15 were killed within the city of Dayton with more than 50 percent being alcohol-related.

“Traffic crash fatalities in urban areas increased across Ohio last year,” Colonel Richard Collins, Patrol superintendent said. “In the past, these metro enforcement initiatives demonstrated that concentrated enforcement efforts on metro interstates can produce meaningful declines in fatal and injury crashes.”

Troopers already joined the Cincinnati Police Department for a similar two-month effort this spring. Working together, troopers and Cincinnati police officers issued 3,774 traffic citations and 1,581 warnings. They arrested 199 people for OVI, 25 for drug violations and 47 with active



Motorcycle units are part of the Patrols metro enforcement initiatives, which combine high-visibility enforcement, specialized computer mapping and a strategic public information campaign to promote traffic safety.

warrants. In addition, 67 criminal arrests were made and two stolen vehicles were recovered.

The Patrol worked with the Cincinnati Police Department for the third time after completing several highly successful initiatives over the course of the last two years. The Patrol partnered with the Cincinnati Police in October of this year as part of the continued initiative.

Similar and highly successful initiatives have been run in Cleveland, Columbus and Toledo in the past several years.

Commercial vehicle safety emphasized in summer programs

Focusing on commercial vehicle safety and homeland security issues, the Patrol participated in Roadcheck 2008, which promoted 72 hours of continuous commercial vehicle inspections throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico June 3-5.

During this year's Roadcheck in Ohio, troopers and motor carrier enforcement inspectors conducted 1,784 inspections and issued 3,437 safety violations on Ohio roadways. From those inspections, 431 commercial vehicles and 97 drivers were placed out-of-service for various violations.

A primary emphasis of Roadcheck 2008 was to promote both safety and security on North American highways through the inspection of commercial vehicles and drivers. In addition to at least 20 inspection sites along major Ohio highways, roving patrols inspected vehicles and drivers traveling other

highways. Motor carrier enforcement inspectors also inspected other passenger carrying vehicles, including charter busses, as part of the program.

“Although certified safety inspectors perform this work every day on Ohio roads, Roadcheck places a special emphasis on commercial vehicle and driver safety issues, including safety belt compliance, aimed at saving lives on Ohio highways,” Colonel Richard Collins, superintendent of the Patrol said.

On July 16, the Patrol joined law enforcement agencies from Michigan and Indiana in a multi-state enforcement operation that focused on hazardous material transportation violations and unsafe commercial motor vehicles.

During the one-day operation, the agencies conducted a total of 919 commercial vehicle inspections, 429 of which were vehicles transporting hazardous materials.

These inspections resulted in 1,384 equipment and driver violations, with 342 violations directly related to hazardous material vehicles. Additionally, 107 vehicles and 27 drivers were placed out-of-service for serious violations.

Officers issued 209 traffic citations for a variety of violations including overweight vehicles, speeding, unqualified drivers, unsafe equipment and hazardous material violations.

“We will continue to work closely with neighboring law enforcement agencies to ensure that commercial motor vehicles are in compliance with regulations,” Colonel Collins said.

Additional joint efforts are planned in an effort to encourage drivers and companies to maintain compliance with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, which enhance the safety of all drivers and reduce highway fatalities.

Community members help unveil new Medina Post at open house

Medina County citizens were treated to a behind the scenes look at the Patrol's new post facility in Medina at an open house on July 28.

The event marked the culmination of a construction project that began last year as work continues to update and replace older Patrol facilities. The officers and professional staff assigned to Medina now have at their disposal the most up-to-date facilities and equipment to assist them in performing their duties.

The Patrol's first Medina Post opened in 1933 and was one of the 18 original posts. The post moved to its current location on Frantz Road in 1965.

Medina personnel moved to a temporary facility last year while the former post was demolished to allow for construction of the new post.



Medina County citizens were invited to tour the new Medina Patrol Post at an open house on July 28.

Employees contribute to Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run

Patrol personnel from all over the state participated in the 2008 Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run June 23 - 27.

Relay teams set out from Ashtabula, Athens, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Marietta and Toledo, running and biking their way toward Columbus and the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics at

Jesse Owens Stadium at The Ohio State University.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run unites officers from agencies and corrections departments in an effort to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics Ohio.

The final leg of the relay traditionally begins at the Patrol's

Training Academy. Escorted by members of the Division's Motorcycle Unit, Patrol officers, professional staff and family members ran, walked and biked together from the Academy to Ohio State University to complete the final leg, which culminated with the final passing of the torch to a Special Olympian.



Bucyrus District staff members helped carry the torch from Carey to Upper Sandusky.



Members of the Xenia and Wilmington posts participated in the Torch Run in Greene County. From left: Lt. Todd Lee (P-14), Keli Lee, Casey Hilderbrandt, Tpr. Bobby Hilderbrandt (P-14), Tpr. Jennifer Hilderbrandt (P-29), Sgt. Gurjit Grewal (P-29), Lt. Marty Fellure (P-29), Tpr. David Griffith (P-29) and Tpr. Jake Pyles (P-29).

CALEA commends Patrol for professionalism, commitment to excellence

As the Patrol approached its re-accreditation inspection, a team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) arrived in Columbus to conduct an on-site Assessment July 19. The team was comprised of retired Lt. Colonel Robert Johnson, Illinois State Police; Director Mark Keel, South Carolina Department of Public Safety; and Sgt. Gerry Mouzon, North Carolina Highway Patrol.

This group of assessors not only examined the Division's policies and procedures to ensure compliance with existing standards established by the Commission, but also interviewed many Patrol employees and toured several facilities to make sure the Patrol operates under the guidelines of its directive system.

The results of the assessment will be submitted to the Commission and a hearing will be conducted at the November CALEA conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. At this hearing, the Commission will review the final report and receive testimony from agency personnel, assessors and CALEA staff.

Even though the re-assessment process is not yet complete, the on-site process went very well. Patrol personnel, both sworn and professional staff, displayed a high level of knowledge and pride in their role in the re-accredita-



From left: Accreditation Manager Kathy Mahl, CALEA Director Mark Keel, Capt. Brigette Charles, Ret. Lt. Colonel Robert Johnson, Assistant Accreditation Manager Sherri Allen, Maj. John Born, S/Lt. Clifton Spinner and Sgt. Gerry Mouzon.

tion process. During the exit interview with the senior staff members, the assessors commended the Division for its continued commitment to excellence.

The Patrol was initially accredited in 1989, and was re-accredited in 1994, 1999, 2002 and 2005. Maintaining accreditation status is an on-going process and requires constant monitoring and updating of policies and procedures to assure the Patrol meets the Commis-

sion's standards.

To all district, section and field personnel - Thank you for continuously supporting our efforts in the CALEA process by providing requested documentation in a professional manner. Additionally, thank you for your assistance and participation during the Division's 2008 On-Site Assessment. Preparations for another successful re-accreditation in 2011 are already underway.

Drum and Bugle Corps director appointed

On August 8, retired ET3 Thomas Anderson was appointed director of the Patrol's Drum and Bugle Corps after serving as interim director for five months.

Tom retired from the Columbus District Electronic Technician Team in August 2006. As an active member of the Patrol, he was a trumpeter in the Corps. In retirement, he is using his musical talents to lead the group.

Thomas Anderson received his appointment as director of the Patrol's Drum and Bugle Corps from Major Mark Atkeson, who is a former Drum and Bugle Corps member himself.



Ohio American Legion congratulates Patrol on 75th anniversary

Calling the Patrol one of the finest law enforcement organizations in the nation, the Ohio American Legion paid special honor to the Division during the Ohio American Legion State Convention on July 12.

As part of the recognition, it was noted that the Patrol and the American Legion share similar values and have worked together on various projects for more than 72 years. *For more information about the Patrol's long association with the American Legion, please see OSHP Reflections on page 14.*

Michael Morman, State Commander of the Ohio American Legion, presents Colonel Richard Collins, Patrol superintendent, with a plaque recognizing the Division on reaching its 75th anniversary.



Communities turn out to help posts celebrate 75th anniversary

As part of the activities to commemorate the Patrol's 75th anniversary, posts around the state have been hosting open houses and inviting members of their communities to visit posts and learn more about the Division and Patrol operations in local areas.

Successful events were held this summer in Chillicothe, Sandusky, Hamilton, Norwalk, Findlay, Ashland, Georgetown, Batavia, New Philadelphia, Lebanon, Elyria and Wilmington. Posts hosting open houses in the spring were Xenia, Cambridge, Gallipolis, Marysville and Steubenville.



Ohio Senator Mark Wagoner presented a certificate of recognition for the 75th anniversary to Lt. Darryl Edge and Major Christopher Minter at the Sandusky open house.



Norwalk guests included 18 retirees who were invited to a special reception. The open house drew numerous family, friends, neighbors and passers by.

Military service brings state troopers together in Kuwait

Tpr. Steve Schemine (right), Delaware, is currently serving as Battalion Commander 1-134 FA RGT and Sgt. Ray Haas (left), Van Wert, is currently serving as the Operations Officer 22NCR. The two met up on August 21 at Kuwaiti Naval Base.

Their meeting is a reminder that while most troopers are providing safety on Ohio's roadways, some are working to provide safety of a different kind half a world away. The Patrol is proud of the individual sacrifice of its employee-soldiers and grateful for their collective role in defending and serving the United States.



Patrol joins American Legion for Buckeye Boys and Girls State

As part of the Division's long-standing affiliation with the American Legion, Patrol officers once again participated in Buckeye Boys and Girls State, which provide students entering their senior year of high school a hands-on experience in the operation of the democratic form of government, the organization of political parties, and the relationship of one to the other in shaping Ohio government.

The 2008 programs were held June 15-21, with the boys' program at Bowling Green State University and the girls' program at Ashland University.

This year's Buckeye Girls State Highway Patrol was led by Christi Saunders, daughter of MAS1 Melva Dodd, Strategic Services, and Capt. Skip Dodd, Licensing and Commercial Standards. Christi's fellow "state troopers" elected her colonel based in part on her application letter in which she explained, "I'd like to be Colonel because I really admire the Ohio State Highway Patrol and everything they do...I see employees of the State Highway Patrol as hardworking, dedicated, determined and really great leaders."



Among the Buckeye Girls State Highway Patrol troopers were Christi Saunders (center left) and Brittany Thomas (center right). Both are daughters of Patrol employees. Also participating in the Buckeye Girls State graduation were (bottom row) Tpr. Kristin Welk, Sgt. Jennifer Burkhart, Capt. Brigette Charles and Sgt. Anne Ralston; (center row) Capt. Skip Dodd (Christi's stepfather); and (top row) Capt. John Bistor, Lt. Mike Combs, Ashland, Maj. John Born and S/Lt. Cory Davies.

Junior Cadet Week lets teens explore careers in law enforcement



Thirty-five teenagers from across Ohio gave up a week of summer vacation to experience the excitement and rigor of life as a Patrol cadet during the 35th annual Junior Cadet Week, June 23 - 27, at the Training Academy.

Jointly sponsored by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary, the Ohio American Legion, and the Ohio American Legion Auxiliary, the program provides young men and women with an interest in law enforcement insight into the issues peace officers face in their jobs.

During their time at the Academy, the teens experienced aspects of the same training as an Ohio State Trooper. The week included daily physical training, military drill, firearms training, officer-violator contacts, self-defense tactics, canine

and criminal patrol operations and crash investigation.

Junior Cadet Week is a one-time opportunity available only to Buckeye Boys State and Buckeye Girls State attendees during the year of their participation in those programs. Children of Patrol employees are also eligible. Six of the junior cadets were related to Patrol employees: Ian Clouse, son of ES1 Lisa Clouse; Donald Heverly, nephew of Lt. Chris Heverly; Shane McKeever, son of Sgt. Gregory McKeever; Kyle Shonk, son of Tpr. Michael Shonk; Tom Stierhoff, son of retired Tpr. Steven Stierhoff; and Ethan Zurcher, nephew of S/Lt. Chris Zurcher.

Tpr. Erika Englund, Training Academy, and Tpr. Robert Hayslip, Georgetown, served as class advisors.

Volunteer recruits complete training, earn Auxiliary appointments



Twenty new Auxiliary Officers were commissioned on July 26 at a graduation ceremony at the Patrol Academy.

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

The graduation ceremony was presided over by Major Daniel Kolum. Colonel Richard Collins, Patrol superintendent, Auxiliary Colonel Brent

Rawlins, Judge Joseph Clark, Reverend Dr. Robert Fulton, Patrol chaplain and Robert Vanhorn, Auxiliary class speaker, all addressed the graduates. Auxiliary majors from districts around the state presented appointments and certificates of training to the new graduates.

The new Auxiliary officers are: Christopher Rutledge, Jamie Marquis, Joshua Zetlaw, Aaron Rohrbaugh, Larry Britton, Joshua Galaise, Erika Seager, Robert Vanhorn, Thomas Dittoe, Aaron Posey, Perry Rogers, Jerry Manning, Steven Willison, Brandon Boley, Gwynette

Hammond, Thomas Goodwin, Travis Snyder, Matthew Hall, Jason Wilson and Kevin Lewis.

The graduates, and all Auxiliary officers, are required to volunteer a minimum of 120 hours per year to remain active. The new members will volunteer at posts in their home areas and will be assisting 16 of the Patrol's 55 posts.

Congratulations to all the new officers. The Auxiliary extends a special thanks to the Academy staff and the Office of Strategic Services for support in recruiting and training the new class.

Mathess helps train Florida Auxiliary

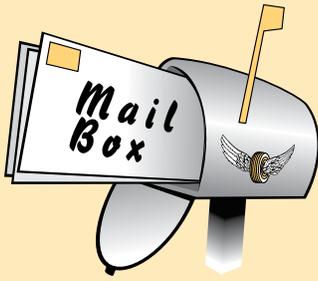


S/Lt. Lance Mathess (second from left) was a featured speaker at the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary's annual training meeting on July 18. He is pictured with Aux. Colonel Steven Sheffer, commander of the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary, Electra Theodorides-Bustle, executive director of the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and Colonel John T. Czernis, director of the Florida Highway Patrol.

Auxiliary travels with Olympic Team



Auxiliary Officer Travis Snyder traveled to Beijing, China, with the USA Olympic Team as an athletic trainer. Auxiliary Snyder is currently employed as an athletic trainer at Wilmington College. He is a member of the 2008 Auxiliary Recruit Class and is assigned to the Wilmington Post.



Roadside assistance, inspections help ensure safety

Dear Friends,

We, the family of retired Colonel Adam G. Reiss, wish to thank you for all the expressions of sympathy extended to us at the time of his passing. It was uplifting that so many of you displayed your respect and love for him by your presence, cards, flowers, calls, and visits.

We pray you know how much it meant to all of us. Please keep him and all of us in your prayers. Adam loved the Patrol and all its people. He enjoyed going to work each day. Oh, and don't forget – "Don't drive any faster that your guardian angel can fly."

**Sincerely,
Evelyn Reiss and Family**

The family of retired Capt. Dwight M. Carey would like to express our thanks to the Ohio State Highway Patrol for all of their support during Dwight's illness and passing. Dwight was so proud of his service with the Patrol. The phone calls, letters, cards, emails, flowers and visits from Patrol personnel both active and retired are so much appreciated.

A heartfelt thanks to all the officers from the Wilmington Post and the surrounding districts who were in attendance at the memorial service on June 8 and the services on June 9 at the Sugar Grove Cemetery. I feel there is no better law enforcement organization than the Patrol. They have always taken care of their own in good times and bad and kept in touch with each other.

Thank you to all of you who kept us in your prayers and thoughts during this difficult time.

**Sincerely,
Mrs. Wilma Dupuis-Carey**

Colonel Collins,

We just wanted to let you know how much we appreciated the support that

was shown and given during our Dad's calling hours and funeral. There were a number of current and past troopers at the calling hours and the six men and women who came to the funeral also were the pallbearers on Saturday, and they were impressive. So once again let us thank you and your wife for coming and for all the support that was given by your men and women of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

The Patrol was a big part of Dad's and our whole family's lives and in the end, your Patrol family was there for our family and it was very much appreciated. Thank you very much.

**Sincerely,
The Family of Ralph Knight**

Last night (July 25) while traveling south on State Route 23 just south of Marion, a car that I just purchased broke down. My sister and I called AAA for roadside assistance, about 15 minutes later a state trooper pulled up behind us. I explained the situation to him and he asked if there was anything he could do, but since we had already called AAA, our wrecker was on its way.

However, as it was getting close to dusk, the officer was kind enough to place road flares on the highway to prevent any unnecessary accidents. I just wanted to tell you that Trooper Addy was very professional, and was very kind to assist us. I'm sure that you don't receive many thank yous in your profession. Our wrecker arrived about 5 minutes after the officer left, but it makes me glad to know that people like Trooper Addy are on the job rendering assistance. Please let this Trooper know that his kindness and assistance was very much appreciated!

**Brian Sparks
Newark**

Yesterday (June 22), my daughter had a flat tire three hours from home. We want to thank the kind officer who pulled over and helped her. She was heading west on Interstate 70 about 50 miles east of Columbus driving a white Toyota.

**A Grateful Mother,
Mrs. Dickhoner**

Thank you for patrolling the Dayton area for vehicle violations. I saw a motorcycle policeman this morning giving a ticket in Moraine and was very happy. Thank you and please don't stop patrolling. It will save lives.

**Jill M. Jeckering
Dayton**

The following letter was received from a student at Geneva Elementary School after Tpr. Ryan Marcy, Ashtabula, conducted a speech detail there.

Dear Trooper Marcy,

Thank you for taking time out of your day and coming to see me again. When you came last year, I really enjoyed when you took me out to look at your car. I appreciate everything; you have helped me change my attitude and behavior in school a great deal and everyone has noticed.

I want you to know I look up to you from your kindness and your bravery. I cannot wait to be a State Trooper and the young marine unit I am in is helping me achieve my goals. I really enjoyed you coming to see me again and I hope to see you again next year. Thank you for the patches. I will cherish them forever. Have a great and safe summer.

**Your friend,
Ryan Cooney**

Certificate of Recognition

Tpr. Kent Stambaugh, Cleveland Investigations, earned a Certificate of Recognition for his superior investigative work, which led to the arrest and criminal conviction of three men conspiring to commit terrorist acts and conspiring to provide material support to terrorists.

Tpr. Stambaugh has served on behalf of the Division as a member of the FBI's Northern Ohio Joint Terrorism Task Force for more than six years. Two years ago, he initiated the investigation of three Ohio residents who were accused of conspiring to kill or maim persons outside of the United States, including U.S. military personnel serving in Iraq. On June 13, a jury in Toledo found the men guilty on all counts.



Kent Stambaugh

Tpr. Timothy Ehrenborg, Marysville, earned a Certificate of Recognition for his quick action that saved a child's life. On July 14, Tpr. Ehrenborg stopped to assist a motorist who had flagged him down on U.S. Route 33 in Union County.

As Tpr. Ehrenborg stopped his vehicle, the motorist was running toward him with an infant child. When the man handed the girl to Tpr. Ehrenborg, he could see the child was losing consciousness and having trouble breathing. Tpr. Ehrenborg immediately began emergency aid by clearing the child's airway and initiating CPR. Through his efforts, the child began breathing normally and regained consciousness.

After emergency medical personnel arrived, the child was taken by ambulance to the hospital where hospital staff reported Tpr. Ehrenborg's actions likely saved the girl's life.



Timothy Ehrenborg

Ace Award

Tpr. Jason Bittinger, Medina, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$47,000 and apprehended two suspects to earn the third Ace Award of his career.

He recovered a stolen truck and three stolen motorcycles valued at a total of \$29,000 after a traffic stop on April 15. Tpr. Bittinger attempted to stop the truck for a vehicle defect and a pursuit ensued.

After terminating the pursuit, Tpr. Bittinger located the truck with assistance from Cleveland police. The suspect driver was apprehended a short time later and admitted to stealing three motorcycles in the bed of the truck, as well as the truck itself.



Jason Bittinger

Tpr. Daniel Jesse, Ashtabula, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$25,675 and apprehended five suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

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.



Daniel Jesse

Tpr. Eric Caudill, West Jefferson, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$39,800 and apprehended eight suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

His recovered a Ford valued at \$5,000 after stopping the suspect driver for multiple traffic offenses. The driver was ultimately arrested for OVI.

A LEADS check of the vehicle came back as stolen, which the suspect also admitted.



Eric Caudill

Tpr. Raul Melo, West Jefferson, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$16,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn his second Ace Award.

His fourth recovery came after he stopped the suspect for a traffic violation and arrested him for driving without a driver license. A search of the suspect revealed a plastic bag containing crack cocaine. When Tpr. Melo contacted the owner of the vehicle, he was advised that the suspect did not have permission to drive the vehicle.



Raul Melo

Ace Award con't

Tpr. Milan Milosevic, Canton, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$43,000 and apprehended five suspects to earn his first Ace Award.

His third recovery came after he attempted to stop the suspect vehicle for a speed violation of 92 mph in a 55 mph zone. The driver did not stop and a pursuit ensued.

Akron police ultimately apprehended the suspect driver after Tpr. Milosevic terminated his pursuit. In addition to finding the vehicle to be stolen, it was also determined that the suspect was the subject of a felony warrant out of Florida.



Milan Milosevic

Tpr. Ryan Robirds, Ironton, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$18,500 and apprehended six suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

He recovered a 2005 Chevrolet valued at \$11,000 after he stopped the vehicle for a plate light violation. He subsequently arrested the suspect driver for what turned out to be the man's third OVI



Ryan Robirds

offense. Contact with the vehicle's owner revealed that the suspect did not have permission to have the vehicle.

Tpr. Harley Steppenbacker, Medina, recovered five stolen vehicles valued at \$27,500 and apprehended five suspects to earn the first Ace Award of his career.

Two of his recoveries came after he responded to the scene of a two-vehicle crash. Upon his arrival, he determined the door locks and ignitions of both vehicles had been punched and altered.

Tracks in the snow showed the occupants of both vehicles had fled the scene on foot. Further investigation revealed the suspect drivers had been drag racing prior to each crashing and both vehicles were stolen from the same apartment complex in Akron. The suspect drivers were apprehended the next day after a passenger injured in the crash agreed to provide their identities.



Harley Steppenbacker

OSHP TRAINING



Marla Gaskill

S/Lt. Marla Gaskill, Administrative Investigations, graduated from Franklin University in Columbus, on May 11 with a Master's in Business Administration with a focus on Leadership.



Cassandra Kocob

Sgt. Cassandra Kocob, Administrative Investigations, graduated also from Franklin University on May 11 earning a Master's in Business Administration with a focus on Human Resources.

Sworn Promotions

Captain Arthur Combest, Columbus District
Staff Lieutenant Richard Baron, Investigative Services
Staff Lieutenant Jon Cross, Piqua District
Staff Lieutenant Kenneth Kocob, Piqua District
Staff Lieutenant Rodney Tyler, Investigative Services
Lieutenant John Altman, Toledo
Lieutenant Gene Jarvi, Investigative Services
Sergeant Robert Ashenfelter, Bowling Green
Sergeant Joseph Baisden, Ironton
Sergeant James Burkhart, Training Academy
Sergeant Mark Leach, Training Academy
Sergeant Jacob Pyles, Wilmington
Sergeant Darren Weathington, Wapakoneta

Professional Promotions

DX1 Kristina Adams, Eaton DX
DX1 Shawn Kiefer, Jackson District Headquarters
ETM Shawn Piper, Technology and Communication Services
ETM Paul Stone, Technology and Communication Services

Patrol partnerships with American Legion go back seven decades

By Michele Vaughan, Patrol Historian

For more than 70 years, the Patrol, the American Legion, and the Patrol Auxiliary, and the resulting programs of that relationship (Junior Cadet, Boys' and Girls' State) have forged a kinship that continues working toward a common goal – to help those in need.

Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary

When this partnership began, Patrol leaders anticipated a great need for manpower due to U.S. involvement in World War II. They predicted correctly; the Patrol seriously needed to supplement its numbers because of young patrolmen leaving in droves to fight overseas. Also, federal agencies gave the Patrol many more war-related responsibilities, such as movement of military convoys, 24-hour patrols around airports, bridges, defense plants and military installations.

According to Retired Auxiliary Lieutenant Colonel Tom Charles, Colonel Lynn Black and Inspector George Mingle (soon to be colonel, after Black's death in 1944) chose American Legion members to serve in the Patrol's Auxiliary for several reasons.

"The Legion was well-organized and had an immediate source of volunteers," Charles recently wrote of the Auxiliary's history. "Legionnaires were military veterans of good character and proven ability. Their military training had included discipline, firearms, personal defense and other skills for which the Patrol would not have to

provide training."

Charles also pointed out that American Legion members would not likely be called back into military service, and even were equipped with uniforms of their own, which were adapted for use while on duty with the Patrol Auxiliary. This did not cost much money and didn't take much time to accomplish.

"And last, but not least, the American Legion was then, as still today, willing and eager to partnership with the Patrol to serve the country and meet a need of its citizens," Charles wrote.

The very first time the Auxiliary met to determine enrollment was on February 8, 1942, in Franklin County. By March 1945, Charles states that 2,650 men were enrolled in Auxiliary training. The first Auxiliary class to graduate, according to Patrol archival information, was the Ashland County Unit on May 13, 1942, with 26 graduates.

By March 1945, there were more than 5,000 Auxiliary officers. This was in great contrast to the Patrol's active officer numbers in March 1945, which dwindled to 137, down from 297 patrolmen in 1942.

"Because of the rapid recruitment and mobilization of the Auxiliary from the Legion's ranks, numerous Patrol posts were kept open and operating during World War II – with volunteer Auxiliary officers handling office duties 24 hours a day," Charles stated.

– *Continued on next page.*

– Continued from previous page.

Both the Patrol and Auxiliary were capable of bringing under control more than 350 notably dangerous intersections within one hour of the beginning of a statewide emergency, according to Charles' information. With Auxiliary Patrolmen's help, military convoys were – in the 1940s – able to cross Ohio at an average speed of 20 miles per hour – which was a very quick pace then.

Military-like coordination within the American Legion aided in setting up the necessary structure for handling affairs throughout the state. In fact, until the 1980s, a Patrol Auxiliary member was required to be an American Legion member and male. Now, anyone – male, female, Legionnaire or not – can apply and serve, according to Patrol Auxiliary Historian David L. Smith. "Being comprised of former military, the American Legion was determined the best source, and solicited to provide member support for an Auxiliary force. After the end of the war (WWII), the unit was continued."

Youth Development Programs

Close ties with the American Legion/Patrol Auxiliary and the Patrol itself resulted in several outreaching programs for youth – namely the Buckeye Boys and Girls State and Junior Cadet Week. The oldest of the three – Buckeye Boys State – began in 1935. These civic educational opportunities, according to Buckeye Boys State Director Jerry White, were a direct assault against youth camps teaching "un-American" ideals.

"The American Legion Buckeye Boys State program and all the Boys State programs (throughout the country) were originally created to offset the efforts underway by the Fascist party at the time to operate youth camps where the Fascists would teach the undermining of a democratic government and society and promote the values and teachings of the Fascist/Nazi party," White recently wrote. "Boys State was created to promote the ideas and ideals of a democratic society and democratic way of life, where each citizen could have a positive role in running a government, regardless of what level. We do not promote or condone the philosophies of any politi-

cal party, but rather teach the organization, operation, and procedures of Ohio government."

Buckeye Girls State programs accomplish similar goals, according to the group's Web site. First held in Washington, D.C., in 1947 on a national level, the Girls State ideal is to "provide citizenship training for girls of high school age in every Department of the American Legion Auxiliary; afford them an opportunity to live together as self-governing citizens; and inform them about the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship, in order that they may understand and participate in the functioning of their government."

Junior Cadet Week offers young people a look at what a cadet goes through and what the Patrol does to train a person to become a trooper, White said. "Many of the young people attending Boys (and Girls) State already have an interest in possibly pursuing a career in law enforcement, perhaps with the Patrol," he wrote.

Because of the large amount of teaching about law and law enforcement ingrained in all three programs, White said the Patrol has been involved with each from the beginning, providing space for the yearly camps, personnel to assist in teaching and aid in recognition of award winners within the programs.

"The Boys State program frequently receives notes from young men who have come through our program stating that the entire experience truly changed their life," White said. "Notes are received on what a positive impact having the opportunity to spend time with and learn from a Trooper or Auxiliary member made in a young man and how doing so cemented a desire that young person had to become a law enforcement officer."



Captain Clarke Kiner



Clarke Kiner

After 31 years of service, Capt. Clarke Kiner, retired June 9. He began his Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at Granville. He trained as a member of the 101st Academy Class and graduated in January 1978. His first assignment was to Marion where he served for five years and was Post and District Trooper of the Year in 1982.

He transferred to Marietta before earning a promotion to sergeant in February 1986. At that time, he transferred to Lebanon as an assistant post commander. He was promoted to lieutenant in September 1991 and served as commander of the Marion and Delaware posts.

He earned a promotion to staff lieutenant in 1999 and served at GHQ in our Office of Field Operations. He was named commander of the Columbus District with his promotion to captain in 2002.

In his career, he has earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award five times and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving. He is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville.

He and his wife, Vicki, live in Galena.

Staff Lieutenant Virginia Fogt



Virginia Fogt

S/Lt. Virginia Fogt, Investigative Services, retired July 11 with more than 30 years of service. At the time of her retirement, she was the Division's longest serving female officer and was the first female officer to achieve 30 years of service with the Division. She trained with the 102nd Academy Class, which graduated in April 1978. She was among the first women to earn a Patrol commission.

She served in the field at Bellefontaine and Circleville and at GHQ in Recruitment and Training, Human Resources, Administrative Investigations, and Strategic Services.

She earned her promotion to staff lieutenant in February 2003 and served as commander of the Recruitment and Minority Relations Section until May 2007.

In her career, she earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award five times and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving. She also completed advanced training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. She and her husband, retired Sgt. Richard Fogt, reside in London.

Staff Lieutenant Kerrie Campbell



Kerrie Campbell

S/Lt. Kerrie Campbell, Finance and Logistic Services, retired August 29 after more than 25 years of service. She is a member of the 112th Academy Class and earned her commission in 1983. Her first assignment was to Delaware where she served for eight years. In 1991, she transferred to Columbus Investigations.

She earned a promotion to sergeant in 1996. In 1998, she transferred to Mt. Gilead as assistant post commander. That November, she assumed command of the Highway Patrol police officers at GHQ's Post 98. She transferred to the Office of Finance and Logistic Services in 1999 and earned a promotion to lieutenant in May 2000 and staff lieutenant in September 2001.

In her career, she earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award, three Certificates of Recognition, and was recognized for 20 years of safe driving. She also graduated from the FBI National Academy in 1998. She resides in Powell.

Staff Lieutenant Reginald Lumpkins



Reginald Lumpkins

S/Lt. Reginald Lumpkins, Investigative Services, retired September 12 after more than 25 years of service. He is a member of the 112th Academy Class and earned his commission in March 1983. After graduation, he served at the Milan, Swanton, and Chardon posts. He earned the Ace Award twice, in 1986 and 1987, and was Post Trooper of the Year at Chardon in 1990.

In May 1993, he transferred to Cleveland Operations before earning a promotion to sergeant that August. Upon his promotion, he transferred to General Headquarters, where he served in Inspection and Standards, Investigative Services, and Administrative Investigations.

He was promoted to lieutenant in July 2000 and served as commander the Labor Relations Unit. Upon his promotion to staff lieutenant in October 2004, he assumed command of the Administrative Investigations Unit, a position he held until transferring to Investigative Services in July 2006.

He is a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command and was recognized for 15 years of safe driving. He lives in Columbus with his wife, Louise.

Staff Lieutenant Michael Nisky



Michael Nisky

After more than 29 years of service, S/Lt. Michael Nisky, assistant commander of the Columbus District, retired on July 3. He began his Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at Warren. He trained with the 108th Academy Class and earned his commission in September 1980.

He served at Circleville and Mt. Vernon/Mt. Gilead. He earned a promotion to sergeant in 1996 and served as an assistant commander at Mt. Gilead. After a promotion to lieutenant in 1998, he was named commander of the Wapakoneta Post. He earned his promotion to staff lieutenant in February 2000 and was assigned to GHQ in the Logistic Services Section. He transferred to Columbus District Headquarters in February 2004.

In his career, he earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving. He also completed advanced training at the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute.

He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Westerville.

Lieutenant Kevin Brun



Kevin Brun

Lt. Kevin Brun, Investigative Services, retired July 3 after 28 years of service. He began his Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at the West Jefferson Post. He trained with the 110th Academy Class and received his commission in July 1981.

His first assignment was to Walbridge where he served eight years before transferring back to West Jefferson and earning Post Trooper of the Year honors in 1990. He transferred to the Office of Investigative Services in 1992, serving as a plainclothes investigator.

He earned a promotion to sergeant in September 2001 and transferred to Columbus District Investigations. After his promotion to lieutenant in January 2006, he served as commander of the Delaware Post before transferring to Investigative Services that December.

In his career, he earned two Certificates of Recognition and the Saved by the Belt Award. He also was recognized for 20 years of safe driving.

He and his wife, Marie, live in Ostrander.

Sergeant James Croston



James Croston

Sgt. James Croston, Jackson, entered disability retirement on July 6 after nine years of service. He trained with the 131st Academy Class and earned his commission in October 1998. He served at the Athens Post and the Training Academy before transferring to Jackson. He earned his promotion to sergeant in December 2004. In his career, he earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award and the Safe

Driving Award.

He and his wife, Tonya, reside in Radcliff.

Sergeant Phillip Bender



Phillip Bender

After more than 25 years of service, Sgt. Philip Bender, Aviation Section, retired on June 21. He is a member of the 112th Academy Class and earned his commission in March 1983. His first assignment was to the Cambridge Post where he served three years before transferring to Steubenville.

In February 1992, he transferred to the Aviation Section. He earned his promotion to sergeant in August 2004. In his career, he has earned a Certificate of Recognition, the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 15 years safe driving.

He and his wife, Victoria, live in Bloomingdale.

Sergeant Mark Helsinger



Mark Helsinger

After more than 29 years of service, Sgt. Mark Helsinger, Lebanon, retired on July 18. He joined the Division as a cadet dispatcher at Batavia. He trained with the 111th Academy Class and earned his commission in 1981.

His first assignment was to Hamilton where he was Post Trooper of the Year twice. In his career he earned the Blue Max Award, two Ace Awards, a Superintendent's Citation of Merit and a Certificate of Recognition. He also was recognized for 30 years of safe driving.

He and his wife, Nicky, reside in Franklin.

Trooper Mark Madigan



Mark Madigan

Tpr. Mark Madigan, Piqua District Commercial Enforcement, retired July 9 with more than 29 years of service.

He started his Patrol career as a cadet dispatcher at Piqua and entered the Academy as a member of the 111th Class. He earned his commission in 1981 and served at Eaton and Dayton before transferring to Piqua's Commercial Enforcement Section in 2003.

In his career, he earned a Certificate of Recognition and was recognized for 15 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Rita, live in Lewisberg.

Trooper Dennis Malik



Dennis Malik

After more than 22 years of service, Tpr. Dennis Malik, Lisbon, retired on July 5. He is a member of the 115th Academy Class and earned his commission in 1986. He served at Ashtabula until 1993 when he transferred to Lisbon.

In his career, he was recognized for 15 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Stephanie, live in Lisbon.

Trooper David Ledford



David Ledford

Tpr. David Ledford retired July 18 after 29 years of service. He is a member of the 106th Academy Class and earned his commission in 1979. He served at Hamilton throughout his career and was Post Trooper of the Year for 2001. He also earned the Health and Physical Fitness Award and was recognized for 25 years of safe driving.

He and his wife, Pamela, live in Hamilton.

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Donald Brane

MCEI Donald Brane, Columbus District Commercial Enforcement, retired August 29 after more than 11 years of service with the Division.



Donald Brane

He transferred to the Patrol from the Bureau of Motor vehicles in 1997 as a load limit inspector at Delaware. He earned his promotion to MCEI in April 2004. In his career, he was recognized for five years of safe driving.

He and his wife, Judith, live in Marysville.

Portable Load Limit Inspector David Fife



David Fife

After more than 26 years of service, PLLI David Fife, Wilmington District Commercial Enforcement, retired on July 31. He joined the Division in 1982 and served as a load limit inspector in the Wilmington District throughout his career. He earned a Certificate of Recognition in 1992 and was recognized for 10 years of safe driving. He and his wife, Cathy, reside in Wilmington.

Dispatcher Katherine Hunter



Katherine Hunter

Disp. Katherine Hunter, Berea Communications Center, retired July 10 after 11 years of service with the Division. She joined the Patrol in 1997 at the Akron Post. She transferred to Berea in 1999.

Dispatcher Carolyn McManis



Carolyn McManis

Disp. Carolyn McManis retired July 31 with more than six years of service with the Division. She served at the Jackson Post throughout her career and was Post Dispatcher of the Year for 2006. She resides in McArthur.

Driver License Examiner 1 Almer Dudley



Almer Dudley

DX1 Almer Dudley retired August 30 after more than 25 years of service. He joined the Division in 1983 and has served as a driver examiner in the Cambridge District throughout his career. He was recognized for 15 years of safe driving.

He and his wife, Mollie, reside in Byesville.

Secretary Susan Cambarare



Susan Cambarare

After more than 30 years of service, Sec. Susan Cambarare retired on August 29. She served at the Elyria Post throughout her career and worked as a dispatcher and a driver license examiner until 1987 when she became a clerk for the post. She was promoted to secretary in 1995. She resides in Lorain.

Driver License Examiner 1 Deanna Roberts



Deanna Roberts

After more than 30 years of service, DX1 Deanna Roberts, Wilmington District, retired on August 30. She began her Patrol career as a clerk at Xenia. She earned a promotion to driver examiner in 1985 and served throughout the Wilmington District, including time as a lead worker and exam station supervisor. She and her husband, Keith, live in Kettering.

Secretary Mary Ann Moore



Mary Ann Moore

Sec. Mary Ann Moore retired August 29 after more than 20 years of service. She joined the Division in 1987 and served at Fremont throughout her career. She and her husband, Loren, live in Port Clinton.

Storekeeper Supervisor Gregory Brewer



Gregory Brewer

Storekeeper Supervisor Gregory Brewer, Logistic Services, retired June 27 with 30 years of service. He joined the Patrol in 1978 as a clerk. He served as one of the Division's tailors for most of his career. He earned a promotion to Administrative Assistant 2 in 2000 and to Storekeeper Supervisor in 2007. He and his wife, Diana, reside in Columbus.

Secretary Jona Scott



Jona Scott

husband, John, live in Port Washington.

Sec. Jona Scott, Cambridge, retired August 29 after 30 years of service. She joined the Division in 1978 as a dispatcher at New Philadelphia where she was Post Dispatcher of the Year 10 times, District Dispatcher of the Year twice and State Dispatcher of the Year for 1987. She transferred to the Cambridge Post in 1998 and was the District's Employee Recognition Award winner last year. She and her

Large turnout makes for a successful North Coast Sunbird event

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Retiree's Association (OSHPRA) held its North Coast Sunbird Reunion on August 16 at the Veterans' Home in Sandusky. One hundred twenty-five members and guests enjoyed fellowship and lunch of barbecued chicken halves with all the trimmings. Gabe Ferencz and Matt Manley did the preparation and event planning. Our warmest appreciation goes to Gabe, Matt, their spouses Debi and Denise, Dave Maley and Ruth Ann Emerick.

Prior to lunch, the OSHPRA board meeting was called to order. Of note, President Shel Senek asked the membership to support purchasing a model of the Patrol's first aircraft for display in Heritage Hall to recognize the Patrol's aviation history. Shel is working with Patrol historian Michele Vaughan on the project, which was approved.

After lunch, First Vice President Arnie Schropp led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Dave Peters' invocation. Tom Bilang provided information on the 2009 Snowbird and Steve Brode reported on the 2010 Snowbird, which may include a cruise. Special guest, S/Lt. Lance Mathess provided an update on the Patrol's 75th Diamond Anniversary Celebration on November 15, and Historian Michele Vaughan provided an overview of the History Section.

Retirement System Chief Financial Officer Dan Weiss and Director Dick Curtis updated attendees on the retirement system, and Board Member Darryl Anderson spoke about members' health and wellness programs.

Colonel Richard Collins reported on the active ranks and



Dan Weiss, Lynn and Dick Curtis, and Don Slemmer enjoy lunch.

retired Colonel Jack Walsh commended Colonel Collins on the recent apprehension of drag racers in Delaware County.

President Senek appointed a committee for officer elections at the October 18 Annual Banquet at the Aladdin Shrine Complex. Shel concluded by offering thanks to Arnie Schropp, Fred Goldstein, Bob Carson and Jim Spurrier, noting these officers are keeping the association active and healthy.

A drawing for door prizes capped off the luncheon. Dave Peters gave the benediction and wished everyone a safe trip home. Great food, weather and, most importantly, great friends made for an exceptional 2008 North Coast Sunbird.

OSHPRA funds Drum and Bugle



From left: Sgt. Rudy Zupanc, Drum and Bugle Corps assistant commander; Colonel Richard Collins; retired Lt. Colonel Shel Senek, OSHPRA president; retired ET3 Tom Anderson, Drum and Bugle Corps director; and retired Tpr. Charlie Linek, OSHPRA immediate past-president.

The Highway Patrol Retirees' Association recently presented a check for \$314 to Colonel Richard Collins to purchase new music for the Patrol's Drum and Bugle Corps. The music will afford the Corps opportunities to play with other groups when they represent the Patrol at functions such as police memorial events across Ohio and in Washington, D.C.

We are proud the Retirees' Association decided to sponsor this purchase and we are grateful for their support. The Drum and Bugle Corps currently has openings for trumpet and flugelhorn players. Interested musicians should contact Sgt. Rudy Zupanc at 614-799-3547.

Gilkerson joins OSHPRA

Retired Police Sergeant David Gilkerson became the first member of the Patrol's police officer ranks to join the Highway Patrol Retirees' Association. Dave began his law enforcement career in 1969 serving with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Madison County Sheriff's Office before joining the Patrol in 1993. He retired from the Division in July 2000.

On August 16, Dave joined the Retirees' Association at the group's Sunbird Reunion. The association was formed in 1975 and is, "devoted to strengthening and perpetuating a strong alliance between retired and active members of the Patrol family." The association now includes more than 900 members. Membership is open to all employees, sworn and non-sworn, who retire from the Patrol in good standing.

Congratulations to retired Police Sergeant David Gilkerson on joining the Retirees' Association. To learn more about the association, or if you are a retired Patrol employee who is interested in joining, please visit our Web site at <http://www.oshpra.org>.



Expressing sympathy



Timothy E. Dreisbach

Timothy E. Dreisbach

Retired Sgt. Timothy E. Dreisbach, 61, passed away July 4 at his residence in Ashland. He was a member of the 82nd Class and served at Ashtabula and Ashland. He retired in April 1996 after 27 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Karen, and children, Kimberly and Todd.



Dennis L. Reed

Dennis L. Reed

Retired ET3 Dennis L. Reed, age 61, died peacefully May 28 in Orange, Texas. He joined the Patrol in 1968 and served as a dispatcher at Circleville, Mt. Vernon and the Massillon District communications center. After a promotion to ET3, he transferred to the Bucyrus District. He is survived by his wife, Sandi, and sons, Jamie and Ryan.



Ralph Knight Jr.

Ralph Knight Jr.

Retired Sgt. Ralph Knight Jr., age 76, died on August 11 in Tempe, Arizona, with his family by his bedside. He was a member of the 42nd Class and served at Lancaster, Lisbon, Warren, Ashtabula, Granville, Mt. Vernon and Athens during his 30 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, and his children: Joe, Jewell Ann, Jeff, and Tim.



Charles S. Rice

Charles S. Rice

Retired Lt. Charles S. Rice, 88, died July 19 in Findlay. He was a member of the 25th Class and served at Mansfield, Lisbon, Castalia, St. Marys, Findlay, Piqua and GHQ. He retired in July 1973 after 25 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Ann, and children, Jaquie and Clinton.



Paul D. Lahey

Paul D. Lahey

Retired Sgt. Paul D. Lahey 84, died March 18 in Findlay surrounded by his family. He was a member of the 41st Class and served at Van Wert, Mansfield and Swanton. He retired in January 1975 after more than 20 years of service. He is survived by his children: Jan, Denise and Steve.



Edgar D. Wain

Edgar D. Wain

Retired Ptl. Edgar D. Wain, 87, passed away June 16 at his home in East Liverpool. He was a member of the 36th Class and served at St. Clairsville, Lisbon, Massillon and Bucyrus District Headquarters. He retired in January 1975 with 22 years of service. He is survived by his sons: Gary, Niles, Mark, and Joseph.



John H. Parson

John H. Parsons

Retired Sgt. John H. Parsons 87, passed away July 2. He joined the Patrol in 1952 with the 36th Class. During his 22-year career, he served at Medina and Walbridge. He retired in June 1974, and is survived by his wife, Coralyn.



Roger C. Wilson

Roger C. Wilson

Retired Capt. Roger C. Wilson, 84, passed away August 5. He was a member of the 21st Class and served at Portsmouth, Middletown, Lancaster, Wilmington, Dayton and Athens, and was commander of the Jackson District for 12 years. He retired in May 1979 after more than 32 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and sons, Michael and Gregory.

Defiance

With the help of many individuals, groups and businesses in the Defiance community, athletic facilities at Defiance High School have undergone upgrades.

This whole process started in an effort to honor Frankie Vazquez (a football and baseball player at Defiance and an Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper who was killed in the line of duty). The goal was to raise money for the Frankie Vazquez Fund, to make improvements to the baseball field. Presently, a committee has raised \$109,000, with \$60,000 of that already being spent on improvements for both baseball and softball.

On May 9, members of the local law enforcement community and teammates of Frankie Vazquez met on the Defiance High School baseball field to dedicate the home team dugout to Trooper Frankie Vazquez.

The plaque that commemorates Frank was donated by his wife and his children.

Officers from the Findlay District and Defiance Post were on hand for the dedication of the home team baseball dugout at Defiance High School to Tpr. Frank Vazquez.



Drum and Bugle Corps

On Friday, August 8, the Patrol Drum & Bugle Corps performed two concerts in the Gazebo at the 2008 Ohio State Fair. The State Fair performances are an annual tradition for the Corps.

The Drum & Bugle Corps currently has openings for trumpet and flugelhorn players. Interested musicians should contact Sgt. Rudy Zupanc at 614-799-3547.

GHQ/West Jefferson

Three central Ohio officers competed in an Ohio Natural Bodybuilding Federation event on April 12 in Heath, Ohio. "Natural" means the event was a drug tested competition.

Capt. Brigette Charles, Strategic Services, finished first and was the overall champion in woman's bodybuilding. S/Lt. Shawn Davis, Strategic Services, competed in the Masters Division and earned second place. Tpr. Vince Shirey, West Jefferson, finished second in the open lightweight division.

All three officers maintained a strict three-month regimen of intense weight training and cardio to prepare for the event. The training also included a balanced meal plan of 5 to 6 meals throughout the day. The meal plan consisted of pure sources of lean proteins and fresh vegetables but no processed foods of any kind.

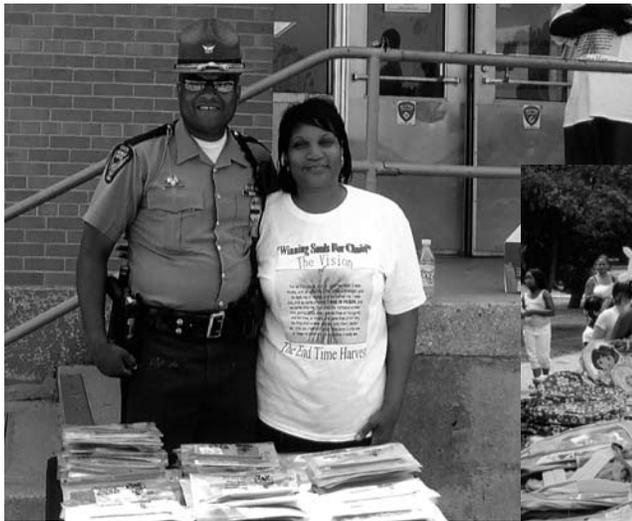


Tpr. Vince Shirey, Capt. Brigette Charles, and S/Lt. Shawn Davis each placed in a recent bodybuilding competition hosted by the Ohio Natural Bodybuilding Federation.

Ashland

Ashland Post personnel participated in a United Way event on June 13. Pictured are Sgt Bob Fulmer and his daughter, Amber, as Teddy Trooper, along with Matt Underwood, radio voice of the Cleveland Indians and announcer with Sports Time Ohio (who emceed the event) and Slider, the Cleveland Indians mascot.

Troopers distributed safety material, junior trooper badges and coloring books during the event.



Piqua

On July 19, Trooper Vee Witcher (pictured with Minister Belinda Mitchell), Piqua, participated in the fifth annual Revival Center Ministries' back-to-school book bag giveaway. More than 150 school-age children from the Dayton area enjoyed food, drinks, music and entertainment.

The children also received Ohio Troopers Caring (OTC) zipper pouches, rulers, pencils, locker mirrors, pocket sliders with safety tips and Teddy Trooper tattoos.

Warren District

The tenth annual Ohio Troopers Coalition District 4 golf outing was held May 28 at Walnut Run Golf Course in Cortland. More than \$5,000 was raised from the event and will benefit the Children's Rehabilitation Center in Warren. There were 144 participants and Outback Steakhouse also served as a sponsor.

From left: Bob Foster, executive director of the Children's Rehabilitation Center; Warren Post Dispatcher Tina Brown; Motor Carrier Enforcement Supervisor Ray Soloman; Lisbon Post Dispatcher Sandy Rafferty; Sgt. Mike Schneider; and Warren District commander, Capt. Jim Holt.





Fremont

In recent months the Fremont Post and Green Bay Packaging Inc. have formed a partnership promoting the importance of traffic safety to their employees.

Through this collaboration, the employees at Green Bay Packaging participated in this year's Operation Feed Campaign. On May 30, troopers from the Fremont Post met with Nancy Lipstraw and collected 45 pounds of non-perishable food and \$281 in donations, which were donated to the Clyde Food Pantry.

The employees of the Fremont post would like to thank all of the employees at Green Bay Packaging who contributed to this great cause.

Bucyrus

Tpr. Mark McLaughlin and Lt. Morris Hill (Teddy Trooper) visited the Sonshine Daycare in Bucyrus recently where they talked to 40 preschoolers about bicycle safety and helped officiate the kids' trike-a-thon.



Jackson District



The Patrol is well represented in our Masonic bodies as seen at the Gallipolis Chapter Order of the Eastern Star 100th Anniversary Celebration. Standing from left are: retired Gallipolis Post commander Lt. Dan Henderson; retired Findlay District trooper and Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, Richard Barrick; and retired Jackson District DX2 Dean Gompf. Seated are Jackson Post Secretary Connie Myers and Gallipolis Post Secretary Jennifer Gompf.



Jackson District held a golf outing for patrol personnel, retirees and friends of the patrol on 7/10/08. The event was attended by Colonel Collins, with 11 teams participating. The winning team (pictured above coming off the green) consisted of S/Lt. Scott Borden, his brother, Todd Borden, Lt. John Thompson and Sgt. Bradd Field.

ODPS Operation Feed

Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) employees raised 122,990 meals for the 2008 Operation Feed Campaign, exceeding the campaign goal of 65,845 meals by more than 57,000 meals, or almost 87 percent above goal. The Department's commitment to this program is extraordinary and consistently represents one of the largest collection totals by any state agency. After the final campaign totals are tallied among state agencies, we expect ODPS to continue its streak and mark the eighth consecutive year as the leader among all state agencies in Operation Feed fund-raising efforts.

Director Henry Guzmán, Assistant Director George Maier and the senior staff extend their appreciation to all the dedicated employees of ODPS for responding to the challenge of feeding Ohio's hungry. The campaign committee is commended for their dedication of time and talent in planning the many fund-raising activities that made this year's campaign such a success.

On July 29, at the Operation Feed Coordinators Appreciation and Check Presentation Ceremony, Director Guzmán presented Matt Habash, executive director for the Mid-Ohio Food Bank, with a check for 122,990 meals totaling \$33,572.93. The campaign coordinators were also presented with Certificates of Appreciation.

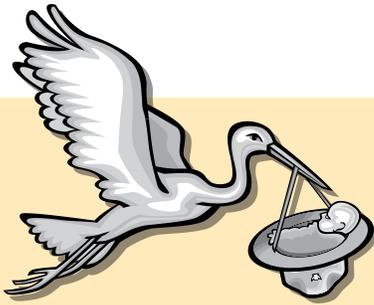


ODPS Operation Feed campaign coordinators were on hand to present a check for 122,990 meals to Matt Habash, executive director of the Mid-Ohio Food Bank.

This year the Patrol contributed 34,041 pounds of food and \$7,776. A special thanks to District 3 and District 7 staff who were the top contributors to this year's campaign.

ES1 Linda Carson, Licensing & Commercial Standards, served for the second year as one of the agency chairpersons along with Registrar Mike Rankin and David R. Brown.

Tpr. Michael & Kelly Maddock, New Philadelphia, a girl, 7/15/08.
Tpr. Adam & Ashley Foster, Hamilton, a boy, 7/22/08.
Tpr. Eric & Cortney Rohner, Governor's Residence, a girl, 7/22/08.
Tpr. Mason & Kara Boyce, Mt. Gilead, a girl, 7/24/08.
Sgt. Craig & Crystal Cvetan, Lancaster, a boy, 7/26/08.
Disp. Chris & Amy Baker, Mansfield, a boy, 7/27/08.
Tpr. Christopher & Vonda Ellison, Piqua, a boy, 8/1/08.
Tpr. Leslie & James Arnold, Springfield, a girl, 8/2/08.
Disp. Jenny Scott (Bucyrus) & Sgt. Frank Day, Fremont, a boy, 8/4/08.
Lt. Bill (Defiance) & Tpr. Stacy Stidham, Findlay District, a girl, 8/13/08.
Tpr. Justin & Meredith Daley, Medina, a girl, 8/15/08.
Tpr. Tyler & Lisa Brown, Gallipolis, a girl, 8/18/08.
Tpr. Mark & Kristen McLaughlin, Bucyrus, a girl, 8/20/08.
Tpr. Edwin & Heather Lopez, Milan, a boy, 8/21/08.
Tpr. Joe (Van Wert) & Disp. Angela Sisco, Defiance, a girl, 8/21/08.
Disp. Geraldo & Cecilia Muniz, Lisbon, a girl, 8/25/08.
Tpr J. Ryan & Julie Hershey, Wooster, a boy, 8/30/08.
Sgt. David (Lisbon) & Disp. Amy Zatvarnicky, Warren, a girl, 9/7/08.
Tpr. James & Becky Speicher, Mansfield, a boy, 9/9/08.
AO1 Jennifer (Licensing & Commercial Standards) & Sgt. Shad Caplinger, Circleville, a girl, 9/9/08.



Stork Visits

- Tpr. Eric (Canfield) & DX Nikki Brown, Canfield DX, a boy, 6/01/08.
- Tpr. Kevin & Melissa Eiden, Bowling Green, a girl, 6/2/08.
- Tpr. Rusty (Granville) & Disp. Erica Lanning, Lancaster, a girl, 6/2/08.
- ET Robert & Elizabeth Graves, Jackson District, a boy, 6/4/08.
- Tpr. Thurman & Wendy Peterson, Milan, a boy, 6/7/08.
- Tpr. Shawn & Julie Cook, Van Wert, a girl, 6/12/08.
- Tpr. David & Rachael Garber, Canton, a girl, 6/12/08.
- DX1 Nicholas & Erin Frost, Cambridge District, a boy, 6/12/08.
- Tpr. Senghor & Anquinette Hobbs, Chardon, a girl, 6/27/08.
- Tpr. Jaysen & Stephanie Kelly, Xenia, a girl, 6/27/08.
- Tpr. Chandra Skufca- Brode (Ashtabula) & Sgt. Leslie Brode, Hiram, a boy, 6/30/08.
- Tpr. Brian & Shannon Nelson, Mansfield, a boy, 7/2/08.
- Disp. Jason & Melissa Whitt, Portsmouth, a girl, 7/7/08.
- GIMS2 Christine & Gene Phillips, Strategic Services, a boy, 7/14/08.

The other day I finished reading *Almost a Miracle* by John Ferling. It is an historic account of the American victory in the War of Independence.

As I pondered the outcome of the war in which a “rag-tag” group of men were able to defeat professional soldiers, it seemed to me to not be “almost” but a true miracle. Of course, I would throw in Divine Providence. In spite of overwhelming challenges, the Continental Army, under the leadership of General George Washington, was able to be victorious and our nation, which struggled through some difficult times as 13 independent colonies, came together as the United States of America.

Putting the book aside, I began to think about the challenges we face today. Although I am definitely not a “gloom and doom” type of person I try to be a realist. We, as a nation, face enemies from without and from within.

The war on terror which deprives us of freedom is a reality. It is a war not fought on a battle field where the enemy can be identified. It is a war to be fought right where we live and work each day. It is a war that has put an even greater burden on law enforcement.

You, as members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, are called upon to not

only make our highway travel safer, but you have been given the added responsibility of homeland security.

It is a war which will be won, and our freedom will be preserved, because of individuals like you who have taken an oath to preserve life, property and freedom. It is a war which will be won because individuals like you have learned to work together for the common good. The Continental Army, which won victory long ago, was made up of many different individuals from different backgrounds who came together as a team.

Paul in his letter to the church at Corinth speaks about the body being made up of many members (I Corinthians 12). We are not all the same, but we have a common goal. Working together we will prevail and freedom will be preserved.

Not long ago I was at Cedar Point riding the Balloons in Kiddie Land with one of our grandchildren. As I saw her turning the basket in which we were riding, smiling and laughing without a care in the world, I wondered what kind of world she would inherit. Then as we went “speeding” around in a circle, with the baskets going up and down, I remembered the dedicated services of all the individuals in the Patrol.

This gave me reassurance that

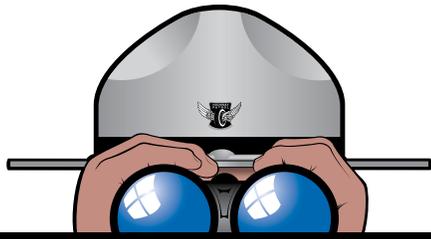


little Emily was going to inherit a good world because you – along with others committed to preserving life and freedom – would make it happen.

Thanks for your service. Thanks for your team-work. Thanks for putting aside differences and uniting in the effort to preserve life, liberty and happiness.

Richard D. Ellsworth

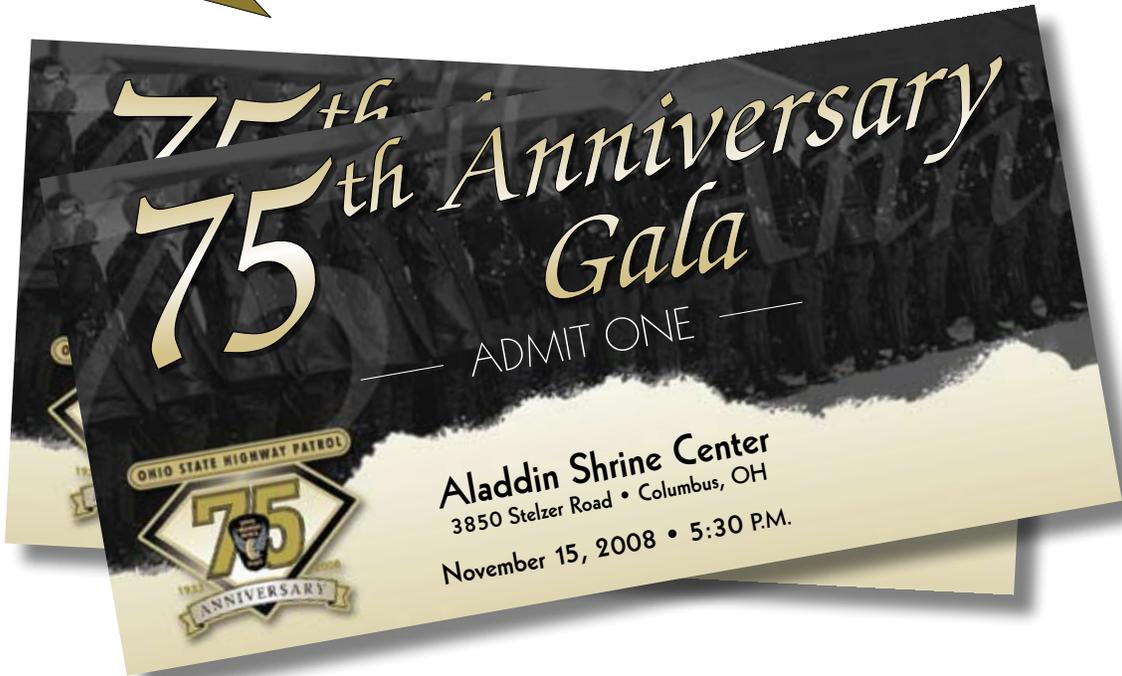
Richard D. Ellsworth
Chaplain



B.O.L.O.

B e o n t h e l o o k o u t

A glimpse at what's new and upcoming



Tickets will be mailed as registration forms are received.

Location:
Aladdin Shrine Center
3850 Stelzer Road
Columbus, OH 43218

Times:
5:30 p.m — Social Hour
7:15 p.m — Dinner
9:00 p.m — Dance

Attire: Black Tie Optional—attendees have the option of wearing a tuxedo or formal dress, including dark suit and tie for men; and cocktail, long dresses or dressy evening separates for women.

Accommodations: For your convenience, a block of rooms have been reserved at the area hotels listed below. If overnight accommodations are needed, please make your reservation before October 15, 2008, and request the OSHP Retirees' Association room rate.

Marriott
1375 N. Cassady Avenue
614.475.7551

Hilton Gardens Inn
4265 International Gateway
614.231.2869

Concourse Hotel
4300 International Gateway
614.237.2515

Hampton Inn & Suites
4150 Stelzer Road
614.473.9911

Baymont Inn and Suites
4240 International Gateway
614.237.3403





Summer 2008

**OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL
P.O. BOX 182074
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43218-2074**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBUS, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 3546