



FLYING WHEEL

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Operation Santa's Sleigh
page 5

COLONEL'S LETTER



In this issue we again mourn the loss of one of our own, Trooper Anthony W. Hosey, Cleveland Post. Trooper Hosey had a fierce desire to make an impact on our roadways, in fact he was the 2020 Blue Max Award winner. In reflecting on the challenges and struggles of the past two years, I want to encourage each of you to pause and recognize all members of our Patrol family that we have lost since all of our lives changed in March 2020.

As we began coming out of the pandemic, there was a need to clearly set a path forward for the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

In early February, we unveiled a new operational focus called Impact 22, which is designed to elevate our core service functions and public value.

To be clear, our core mission has not, and will not, change. But how we go about accomplishing our goals as we transition out of the pandemic to meet new challenges and expectations, while positively impacting the citizens we serve, must and will change.

With Impact 22, we wanted to specifically identify the core services and operations for everyone to focus on after two years of adjusted missions necessitated by the pandemic. Additionally, we undeniably needed to address and significantly impact Ohio's trend of rising traffic fatalities, which is comparable with a nationwide trend of increasing traffic fatalities over the last five years.

Impact 22 is our path forward in three key areas: Collaboration, Operations and Technology.

Collaboration – We will capitalize on our representation in communities across the state and further emphasize our commitment to the public. Each district will implement a significant community and recruitment engagement plan.

Field Operations is collaborating with law enforcement agencies and the marijuana industry to facilitate a pilot Green Lab program. The Green Labs offer officers the opportunity to learn how cannabis causes impairment – similar to training in detecting alcohol impaired drivers.

The DRIVE to Live program provides impactful opportunities for our troopers and students to engage in candid dialogue on key driving safety topics. Whether through in-person or virtual sessions, our 2022 goal is to make contact and impact 50,000 students.

Operations – The Drug Recognition Expert program, known as DRE, continues to strengthen our impact through the advanced education of officers. In 2022, Field Operations will conduct two DRE certification courses, expanding the number of DREs in Ohio from 160 to 185.

Existing DREs will facilitate 25 Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement, or ARIDE, courses throughout Ohio. These two-day classes educate officers on how to recognize drivers impaired by drugs.

Last year, the nationwide overdose rate surpassed 100,000 for the first time in history. Our goal is to reduce the statewide overdose rate by 10 percent through highway interdiction and working with local partners in task force operations.

SERVICE initiatives now include every district. By utilizing the Ohio Statistics and Analytics for Traffic Safety, known as OSTATS, and local crime knowledge from our law enforcement partners, each district will continue to utilize statistical resources to identify crash and crime trends.

Technology – OVI, Safety Belt, Crash, and Distracted Driver Dashboards, developed through OSTATS, provide real-time local and statewide traffic statistics and trends. Commanders will be providing an overview of these free resources to traffic safety partners and the media.

Each district is also working with the Ohio Department of Transportation and local partners to evaluate and address problem areas through comprehensive engineering and enforcement solutions.

Our Aviation Unit is implementing a new speed measuring system through the use of GPS in 10 counties this year. The technology allows troopers and traffic safety partners to target dangerous roads, which may be difficult to work through traditional methods.

Impact 22 is not just an operational focus for the field. Organizationally, regardless of your position or area of responsibility, coming out of the pandemic we need everybody moving in the same direction to support this initiative to continue to provide the high level of service to the citizens of this state as we have for the past 88 years.

Be safe, take care of your families and each other.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colonel Richard S. Fambro".

Colonel Richard S. Fambro
Superintendent



OSHP TRIBUTE

- 4 Trooper Anthony W. Hosey
Chaplaincy Contact List
Auxiliary Sergeant Eric J. Gelsomino

FEATURE

- 5 Operation Santa's Sleigh (On the cover)
- 6 OIU Celebrates 88 Years
- 7 OIU Seeking History
- 8 168th Cadet Graduation
- 9 145th Basic Graduation

NEWS AND EVENTS

- 10 Recruitment Liaison

AWARDS

- 11 AAMVA Award
- 12 Holiday Coloring Contest
2021 Traffic Safety Award
- 13 2021 CE Awards
2021 Criminal Patrol Awards

EVENTS

- 14 Bengals Public Service Announcement
Over the Hill

AROUND THE STATE

- 15 District Events
Patrol employees continue to find ways to serve and enrich Ohio's communities

SPONSORS

- 20 Retirees – *Where are they now?*
Highway Patrol Auxiliary
State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union
Highway Patrol Retirement System
- 23 Retirements
- 29 Highway Highlights
Comments received via social media
- 31 Chaplain's Comments

TROOPER ANTHONY W. HOSEY



Trooper Anthony W. Hosey, Cleveland Post, passed away unexpectedly at his home on December 22, 2021. Funeral services were held on December 30 in Eastlake.

Trooper Hosey began his career with the Ohio State Highway Patrol as a member of the 151st Academy Class and graduated on February 24, 2012. During his 10-year career, he was assigned to the Milan and Cleveland posts. Trooper Hosey was a recipient of the criminal patrol and ACE awards in 2016, and the Blue Max award in 2020. He is survived by his son and daughter.

OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL CHAPLAINCY CONTACT LIST

DISTRICT 1

Reverend Terry McBeath
Findlay, Ohio
terrymcbeath@msn.com

DISTRICT 2

Reverend Daniel Vickey
Fremont, Ohio
fremontnazarene@att.net

STATE CHAPLAIN/DISTRICT 3

Reverend Philip A. Hurlbert
North Royalton, Ohio
philhurlbert@sbcglobal.net

DISTRICT 4

Reverend Anthony Davis
Warren, Ohio
logosoflife@live.com

DISTRICT 5

Reverend John W. Young
Enon, Ohio
Pastorjohnnc3cu@gmail.com
JWYoung2@dps.ohio.gov

Chaplain Jami Hackworth
Urbana, Ohio
jhackworth@dps.ohio.gov
kentonconnector@yahoo.com

DISTRICT 6/GHQ

Reverend William A. Pellum
Circleville, Ohio
revwap@yahoo.com

Reverend Larry Crowell
Dublin, Ohio
crowell5354@gmail.com

DISTRICT 7

Reverend Jerry D. Wenger
St. Clairsville, Ohio
jwenger4@comcast.net
jdwenger@eastrichlandfriends.com

DISTRICT 8

Reverend Doctor George Hill
Cincinnati, Ohio
chaplain.hill@fuse.net

DISTRICT 9

Reverend Edward G. Zell
Logan, Ohio
ezell@signsunlimited.com

AUXILIARY SERGEANT ERIC J. GELSOMINO



The Ohio State Highway Patrol mourns the loss of Auxiliary Sergeant Eric J. Gelsomino of the Warren District, who passed away on October 15, 2021. Auxiliary Sergeant Gelsomino served as a member of the Auxiliary since 2014. He earned the Warren Post and District Auxiliary Award of the year in 2015.

He was a past president and longtime board member of the Niles Community Services and sponsored the annual Canned the Cruiser food drive with the Ohio State Highway Patrol at the Sparkle Store to support the Niles Community Services.

Eric is survived by his wife, Trish whom he married June 17, 2017, son, Eric Peter, daughter, Gina, two sisters, Annette and Michele, and many extended family members and relatives.



OPERATION SANTA'S SLEIGH

On December 23, the Ohio State Highway Patrol, county and local law enforcement, fire departments and EMS from around Ohio gathered for Operation Santa's Sleigh. First responders lined the roads outside Ohio's six Children's Hospitals (Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Toledo), as well the state's two Veterans Homes (Georgetown and Sandusky).

For several years running, each year on December 23, the Ohio State Highway Patrol and partnering first responder agencies from around the state have participated in Operation Santa's Sleigh. The annual event brings cheer to those who need it most during the holiday season through a parade and televised message. To help coordinate and facilitate the various agencies participating, the Patrol's Public Affairs Unit worked with Light Ohio Blue. Bill Swank, Light Ohio Blue founder and president, directors and board members created stockings for the patients

and children along the route in Columbus.

The Patrol's sworn personnel were encouraged to participate in marked cruisers as operationally feasible. Also, those who were off duty were permitted to voluntarily participate. Family members and professional staff were also invited.

"It is a very positive and uplifting experience for the personnel of the Findlay District," said Captain Anthony C. Bradshaw, Findlay District. "It is an impressive and heartwarming sight to see so many public safety vehicles from multiple jurisdictions come together to lift the spirits of children in the hospital over the holidays. Being able to include our own family members in this event provides a unique opportunity for all of us in the Patrol family to come together in support of a wonderful cause."

At each hospital location, the highlights for the first responders along the route were the children.

However, for those who went to the Veterans Home in Sandusky, it was grand marshal for the parade of first responders - Retired Master Sergeant Coleridge Jones, a 99-year-old WWII veteran who resides at the home.

The purpose of Light Ohio Blue is to honor and pay respect to the law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty, as well as those currently serving sworn and civilian staff. The Light Ohio Blue campaign coincides with activities associated with Police Week. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation that designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. Light Ohio Blue first began as Light Central Ohio Blue in 2016. After three successful years in Central Ohio, the campaign spread statewide under Swank's leadership.

The 2022 Operation Santa's Sleigh is scheduled for December 23.

OIU CELEBRATES 88 YEARS



Agents with the Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) celebrated 88 years of serving Ohio on December 23, 2021.

The agency reflected on the many successes in 2021, including the record 141 guns recovered while conducting enforcement, two times more than all of 2020. In 2019, agents recovered 30 guns. A majority of the guns recovered were from patrons at liquor permit locations, such as bars and carryouts. Most of those guns were recovered from patrons who were not permitted to carry, for example weapons under disability, felons, or they were carrying/concealing it illegally. Agents in Cleveland, who partnered with local law enforcement, saw the biggest increase. Cleveland agents

recovered 123 of the 141 guns, compared to 36 guns in all of 2020.

Education remained a key component for OIU. As the year ended, OIU launched the online and still free Alcohol Server Knowledge (ASK) program. OIU officials worked with the AB InBev Foundation to bring the training online. Much like the in-person class, the training includes alcohol sales, false identification, identifying human trafficking, tobacco sales, food stamp fraud, trace-back investigations, labeling and refilling, among other topics. During the online course, the participant must watch videos and take a comprehensive exam at the end. Once the participant successfully completes the course, they are presented with

a certificate. OIU became aware of the opportunity to partner with AB InBev from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control. The partnership with AB InBev began as a pilot program with six cities worldwide to participate in Global Smart Drinking Goals - which is reducing the harmful use of alcohol by 10 percent in six cities. OIU submitted a plan for Columbus, which can also be used for all of Ohio. The other five cities are located in Belgium, Brazil, China, Mexico and South Africa.

In April, agents from the United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General, Clark County Sheriff's Office and Clark County Prosecutor's Office executed three search warrants at two businesses and one home in Clark County for trafficking food stamps. In addition, prescription pills were purchased from the owner. Agents and Clark County deputies seized business records, EBT terminals and one hand gun. Agents issued 27 administrative violations for food stamp trafficking and drug trafficking. The criminal case is pending.

As always, agents reflected on the memory of Agent James Burns who was shot and killed on November 7, 1964, while working a bootlegging investigation.

Finally, OIU agents and staff were thanked by Colonel Richard S. Fambro and OIU Senior Enforcement Commander Erik Lockhart for their professionalism and commitment to their jobs.

OIU SEEKING HISTORY

The Ohio Investigative Unit would like to encourage retired agents and staff, and their families to help us build a more robust history of the agency. If you have old newspaper articles, photos or other items you are ready to part with please let us know. You can email us at OSHP@dps.ohio.gov - Attention OIU Public Information Officer Julie Hinds.



RECRUIT SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 11 - 22, 1976

Front Row - Left to Right:
Herbert F. Pugh - Angel L. Vega - Tara L. Tyler - Dorothy Bush - Director C. E. Reich - Sandra Steinhilber - Michael D. Tiernan - Mark W. Lewis - Deputy Director W. C. George

Back Row - Left to Right:
Thomas L. Hooper - Carl W. Van Vorce - Thomas C. Gander - Howard A. Scott - Daniel V. Brandenburg - Dennis L. Banks - David L. Thomas

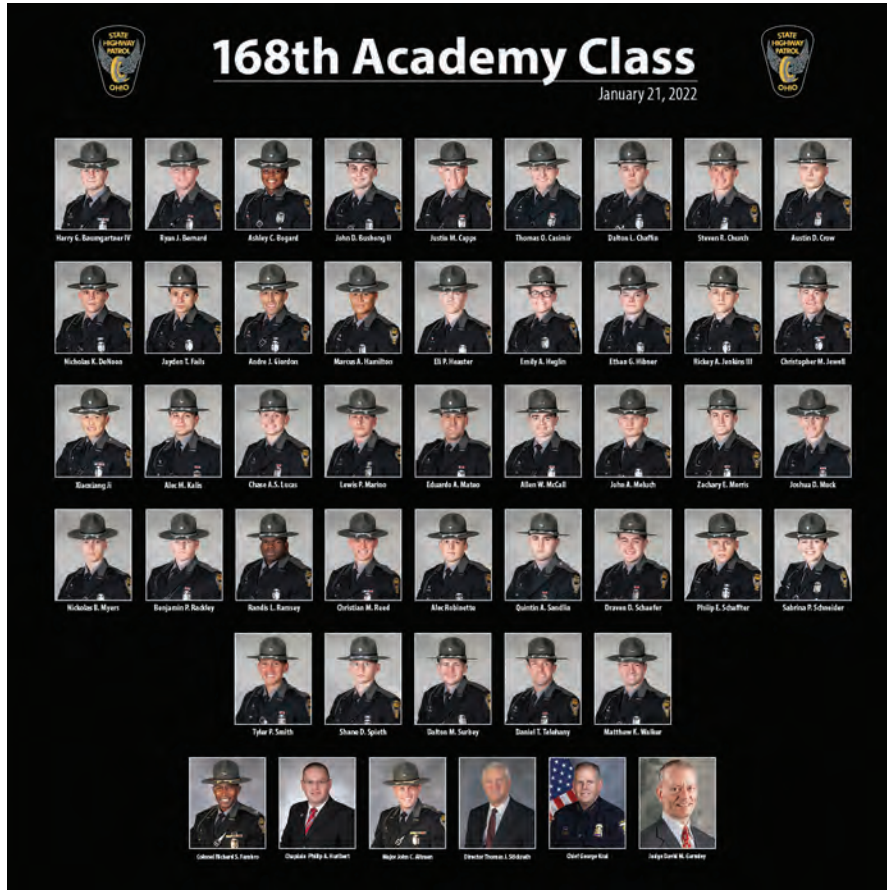


STILLS SEIZED FROM 1970 TO 1980

1970.....	25
1971.....	32
1972.....	19
1973.....	9
1974.....	16
1975.....	6
1976.....	5
1977.....	3
1978.....	4
1979.....	5
1980.....	0
TOTAL.....	124



168TH CADET GRADUATION



The Ohio State Highway Patrol's 168th Academy Class graduated on January 21 after 30 weeks of intense training. Director Thomas J. Stickrath, Ohio Department of Public Safety, and Colonel Richard S. Fambro, Patrol superintendent provided remarks. Judge David M. Gormley, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, issued the Oath of Office. The Patrol would also like to thank the Ohio Channel for livestreaming the graduation.

Courses completed by the 168th class included crash investigation, criminal and traffic law, detection of impaired drivers, firearms, physical fitness, self-defense, and emergency vehicle operations.

Trooper Harry G. Baumgartner IV, Springfield Post, was selected as class speaker and thanked the Academy and cadet family members for being supportive during their training.

Five graduates received special honors for top performance in various fields of study. The honorees were:

- Overall performance – Trooper Shane D. Spieth, Fremont Post
- Top performance in academics – Trooper Christian M. Reed, Marion Post
- Top performance in driving – Trooper Thomas O. Casimir, Granville Post
- Top performance in firearms – Trooper Lewis P. Marino, Medina Post
- Top performance in physical fitness – Trooper Xiaoxiang Ji, West Jefferson Post

Toledo Police Chief George Kral was the featured speaker for the ceremony. Each of the graduates reported to their posts on January 23. The graduates' first 70 working days are a field-training period under the guidance of a veteran officer. The new graduates are assigned to 24 of the Patrol's 59 posts.

145TH BASIC GRADUATION



Members of the 145th Basic Peace Officer Class received training certificates during a graduation ceremony held January 14 at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy. The ceremony was also streamed virtually through the Ohio Channel for family, friends and law enforcement partners to watch. The 38 graduates assumed duties as peace officers for 17 Ohio agencies.

The 21-week basic course began in August. The course was developed by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission and offers comprehensive instruction in more than 150 topics, including criminal law, traffic law, community relations, physical training, self-defense, firearms, emergency vehicle operations, standardized field sobriety testing and electronic speed measuring devices.

Nicholas C. Poghen, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Parks & Watercraft, was selected as class speaker by his fellow class members and addressed the assembly.

Class honors went to the following:

- Overall Top Performer – Nicholas C. Poghen, ODNR, Division of Parks & Watercraft
- Top Academics – Lucas T. Riley, ODNR, Division of Parks & Watercraft
- Top Firearms – Donald J. Flowers, Lakewood Police Department
- Top Physical Fitness – Nicholas C. Poghen, ODNR, Division of Parks & Watercraft
- Top Driving – Kyle W. Moss, Wooster Police Department

Hardin County Sheriff Keith Everhart was the featured speaker for the ceremony, and addressed the graduates and a virtual audience of friends, relatives and law enforcement officers. Colonel Richard S. Fambro, Patrol superintendent, also provided remarks.

RECRUITMENT LIAISON

A new recruitment liaison program is expanding the reach of the recruitment process and energizing the troopers in the field. Started in January thru the Recruitment Section, the program is designed to increase overall contacts and ultimately recruit qualified candidates for upcoming cadet classes.

The Recruitment Section asked assistance from the field, and according to Recruitment and Diversity Lieutenant Misty D. Waller with the Office of Training, Recruitment and Diversity, the field answered.

"This program is enhancing and expanding the reach of our four full-time recruiters," Lieutenant Waller said. "The district liaisons are increasing our number of recruiting contacts throughout the state, which ultimately brings more recruits into the application process. This program also is energizing the troopers who are taking an active role in building tomorrow. They are invested in contacting qualified applicants who have the potential to become future leaders in our agency."

The liaisons attend monthly meetings to exchange ideas and efforts. If needed, they attend career fairs. When they attend career fairs, they are given frequently asked questions and answers. If they make a contact, they forward that information back to the full-time recruiters. If they would like, and it is operationally feasible, they may participate in recruitment details with the full-time staff.

Human Capital Management Analyst Alison R. Granger, Office of Training, Recruitment and Diversity, said that each district has recruitment liaisons made up of staff lieutenants, sergeants and troopers, chosen by their district staff.

"The districts have a lot of flexibility in determining how they will work the program," Granger said.

Lieutenant Waller said with the addition of the liaison program, full-time recruiters are able to focus on public events, career fairs, academic details and numerous additional efforts.

Just three months into the liaison program, the benefits are being realized, specifically in being able to touch areas of the state which in the past have not been areas where active recruiting took place.

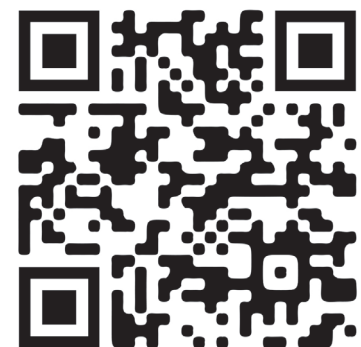
"The more people we have in the recruiting effort, the more qualified applicants we can contact," Lieutenant Waller said. "This leads to more qualified recruits entering the Academy."

Granger said as the year began, recruiting was taking place for the 170th and 171st cadet classes. These will be the first two classes where the liaisons have played a role in recruiting cadets. The field recruitment liaisons assist the recruitment section by attending career fairs, in one instance, generating nine new contacts.

Ultimately, the real value of the liaison program will be realized when qualified candidates move through the process and become Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers.

"I am excited to hear from the current recruits once they enter into the Academy," said Lieutenant Waller. "I think this will give us a better gauge of how this program is impacting our efforts."

In addition to the recruitment liaisons, the Recruitment Section debuted a contact card this spring to all personnel as a way for everyone to participate in the recruitment efforts. Referrals generated from the cards are sent to full-time recruiters for follow-up. Active ranks can find the contact card centrally located on the Gateway.



PATROL EARNS TWO NATIONAL AAMVA AWARDS

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary earned the 2021 American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) award for Community Service and the Patrol’s Statistical Analysis Unit (SAU) earned a 2021 AAMVA award for Innovative Use of Technology.

The Patrol Auxiliary was honored for its work with agencies throughout the state to fill the need of delivering meals to at-risk and elderly people during the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the agencies the Auxiliary worked with were LifeCare Alliance and their Meals on Wheels program, the St. Stephens Community House Food Bank, The Mid-Ohio Food Bank and the Cleveland Food Bank. Auxiliary officers also coordinated and assisted with traffic control at drive-thru distributions.

The AAMVA Community Service award recognizes programs that give back to their communities, such as backpack supplies for returning veterans, food drives, and gifts for children.

The goal of the Auxiliary projects was to partner with agencies and

charities across Ohio, and provide resources, nutritional assistance and a safe environment for pickup and delivery. Auxiliary commanders reached out to the agencies and charities to determine what assistance they needed. Once all needs and logistics were identified, the Auxiliary command staff scheduled Auxiliary officers to assist in filling the needs.

One event in particular, the LifeCare Alliance’s Meals on Wheels, involved Auxiliary officers and troopers delivering nearly 11,000 meals directly to the homes of elderly and at-risk individuals. Overall, Auxiliary officers volunteered nearly 2,500 hours working the emergency food distributions during the beginning months of the pandemic.

The Auxiliary is an all-volunteer force that provides assistance to troopers in the course of their duties. Auxiliary officers contribute tens of thousands of hours each year performing a variety of functions.

SAU earned AAMVA honors for its work on the Ohio Statistics for Analytics and Traffic Safety (OSTATS) series of internal and public-facing dashboards developed by the unit’s Geographic Information System team. The dashboards provide a quick way for field commanders to get crash and activity statistics in an interactive environment to help them better direct resources. The public-facing OSTATS dashboards provide maps and statistics for the public, media, law enforcement agencies and other traffic safety partners across the state of Ohio.

The main crash dashboard contains five years plus the current year of crashes, reported from all agencies across the state. This dashboard is updated weekly and provides current information related to crashes in Ohio.

The AAMVA Innovative Use of Technology award recognizes jurisdictions that have implemented technology tools that directly enhance access to services or the service experience.

Another series of internal dashboards are specific to leading crash causing violations and high priority operations including OVI, distracted driving, seat belts, speed, commercial vehicles, failure-to-yield, work zones, and drugged driving. These interactive dashboards allow officers to compare work activity to crash patterns, and displays statistics that can be used to prioritize overtime opportunities and make near real-time shift adjustments to better address emerging crash issues.

A Traffic Volume dashboard was also created in response to changing traffic patterns related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The main OSTATS crash dashboard and accompanying user guide is also available to the public at: <https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/ostats.aspx>.



HOLIDAY COLORING CONTEST

The Patrol's Holiday Card Contest was held in late November for children up to 12 years old. The contest received several unique and special art submissions from many talented children. The winner of the contest was Claire Urchek from Maplewood Elementary in Lucas County. The winning entry featured a Patrol plane, complete with Santa flying the aircraft on a roadway carrying Santa's cookie and ticket bags. The artwork was featured as the Patrol holiday graphic.

The criteria for submitting artwork included having a "Happy Holidays" message and one of the following – a Patrol helicopter, plane, canine, badge or the Flying Wheel. Those with submissions were asked to provide the child's name, school name, grade, age and parent contact information. The submission window was open for 11 days with artwork received from across the state.



2021 TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARDS

The Traffic Safety Award is earned for contributions toward increasing overall community safety in three critical areas of OVI, safety belt enforcement, and distracted driving, with an emphasis on community involvement.

Tpr. Tyler J. Blankemeyer
 Tpr. Tyler L. Boetcher
 Tpr. Ethan S. Branham
 Tpr. Jonah C. Carson
 Tpr. Jalal E. Chaib
 Tpr. Joshua C. Craft
 Tpr. Ishmael S. Dabo
 Tpr. Russell P. Dennison
 Tpr. Matthew A. Dyer
 Tpr. Mykol A. Gardiner
 Tpr. Kenton J. Gibson
 Sgt. Eric D. Holbrook
 Tpr. Duane S. Hunsicker

Tpr. Benjamin J. Kirby
 Tpr. Austin J. Kleman
 Tpr. George S. Ksenich
 Sgt. Jacob Landis
 Tpr. Matthew Magistri
 Tpr. Jeffrey M. Martin
 Tpr. Zackeria K. Maust
 Tpr. Hiram Morales
 Tpr. Mark J. Mowbray
 Sgt. Steven G. Posada
 Tpr. Kyle L. Prose
 Tpr. Louis L. Quiles
 Tpr. Chad A. Recker

Tpr. Mitchell A. Reynolds
 Tpr. Joseph D. Roush
 Tpr. Nathan H. A. Rubenstein
 Tpr. Brandon P. Schreiber
 Lt. Rustun K. Schack
 Tpr. Stefan K. Spriggs
 Tpr. Richard R. Suda
 Tpr. Eric R. Tometich
 Tpr. James L. Voiles
 Tpr. Michael S. Wearsch
 Tpr. Patrick M. White

2021 ACE AWARDS

The Ace Award is earned for excellence in auto larceny enforcement.

Sgt. Brian J. Beal	Tpr. Lewis R. Finsen	Tpr. Darius M. Patterson
Tpr. Thomas N. Bee	Tpr. Jarid I. Fitzpatrick	Disp. Melissa A. Pearce
Tpr. Tyler L. Boetcher	Disp. Dawn M. Fremder	Tpr. Stephen R. Rabold
Tpr. Benjamin L. C. Boutot	Disp. Heather E. Harper	BMV Inves. Kevin W. Ragan
Tpr. Matthew D. Boyer	Disp. Emily N. Heverly	Sgt. Michael D. Russell
Sgt. Joseph M. Costarella	Tpr. Ke'Von M. Huguely	Tpr. Larry A. Skaggs
Tpr. Corey J. Cottrill	Tpr. Elizabeth Justice	Tpr. Colton T. Stanley
Tpr. Brian E. DePizzo	Disp. Heather A. Kanouse	Disp. Christopher B. Trout
Tpr. Steven J. Drew	Tpr. Adam D. Lewis	Tpr. Tara L. Worner
Tpr. Matthew A. Dyer	Disp. Amber M. Lewis	

2021 CRIMINAL PATROL AWARDS

The Criminal Patrol Award is earned for conducting felony case investigations leading to felony arrests.

Disp. Melissa R. Akers	Tpr. Paul R. Green	Tpr. Samuel S. Moon
Tpr. Jason N. Archer	Tpr. Spencer D. Groves	Disp. Lyndsay S. Morton
Tpr. Kyle J. Aubry	Tpr. Austin S. Hall	Tpr. Austin J. Neekamp
Sgt. Jeffery L. Bernard	Tpr. Mohammad A. Hamed	Tpr. Nicholas M. Nolte
Tpr. Jeremy L. Border	Tpr. Osama A. Hamed	Tpr. Dewaine A. Norman
Disp. Carrie M. Breech	Sgt. Nathan L. Henn	Sgt. Dustin Payne
Tpr. Jalal E. Chaib	Tpr. Evan M. Hill	Tpr. Adam T. Pollitt
Tpr. Grady E. Coblentz	Tpr. Jesse T. Hoffer	Tpr. Matthew K. Poremba
Tpr. Jordan M. Cole	Tpr. Anthony W. Hosey	Tpr. Andrew L. Pudenz
Tpr. Blake S. Combs	Sgt. Dexter T. Howard	Tpr. Kyle A. Ratcliff
Sgt. Kristi J. Comstock	Tpr. Benjamin J. Kirby	Tpr. Colten L. Riley
Tpr. Matthew R. Cook	Tpr. George S. Ksenich	Sgt. Timothy A. Root
Lt. Pablo Cruz	Tpr. Loren J. Lee	Tpr. Brandon P. Schreiber
Tpr. Tyler F. Deal	Tpr. David Lopez	Disp. Chelsea L. Sederstrand
Tpr. Sean L. Eitel	Tpr. Derek L. Malone	Tpr. Andrew M. Shellhouse
Tpr. Jason W. Fowler	Tpr. Matthew M. Manly	Tpr. Drew M. Thomas
Tpr. Patrick J. Galvin	Tpr. Zackeria K. Maust	Tpr. Nicholas L. Thornton
Sgt. Matthew Gardner	Tpr. Kyle J. Mayle	Disp. Matthew A. Williams
Tpr. Isaac M. Garlough	Disp. Brian J. McCann	Tpr. Craig P. Willison
Disp. Ryan S. Gilkison	Tpr. Harold L. McCumbers	Tpr. Michael R. Wilson
Tpr. Elyse D. Roddy Glassburn	Disp. Jayla G. McElroy	Disp. Joshua J. Wright
Sgt. Erica J. Gockstetter	Disp. Taylor J. Meek	Tpr. Patrick E. Wright

BENGALS



Patrol personnel (left to right): Trooper Julie A. Haas, Trooper Elyse D. Roddy Glassburn, K9 Wolf, Colonel Richard S. Fambro, Staff Lieutenant Tiffiany L. Meeks, Lieutenant Nathan E. Dennis, Sergeant Brice A. Nihiser

#WhoDey! Ahead of Super Bowl Sunday, February 13, the Ohio State Highway Patrol and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) joined with the California Highway Patrol and the California Department of Transportation for a joint video message to discourage impaired driving during the big game between the Cincinnati Bengals and the Los Angeles Rams. In the Ohio portion of the video, which was recorded at Paul Brown Stadium in Cincinnati, Colonel Richard S. Fambro is joined by troopers from the Wilmington District and General Headquarters, and ODOT personnel. The public service announcement was used as part of the, "Fans don't let fans drive drunk," campaign.

OVER THE HILL



Members of the 121st class include: back row (Left-Right) Captain Daniel E. Springs, Captain Ray E. Martin and Sergeant David J. Bever. Front row (left to right): Sergeant Jeremy B. Mendenhall, Sergeant Terrill S. Barnes, Staff Lieutenant Antonio L. Matos and Captain Matthew S. Warren. Not pictured: Staff Lieutenant Michael D. Vinson, Sergeant William D. Bower, Trooper Michael J. Landers, and Trooper Corey C. Wright.



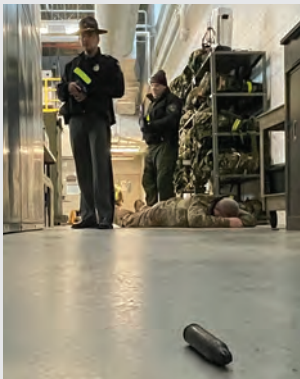
Members of the 122nd class include: (Left-Right) Sergeant Christopher R. Smith, Trooper Michael O. Brooks, Sergeant Jeffrey P. Bernard, and Sergeant Charles T. Merryman. Not pictured: Captain Kevin A. Knapp and Captain Eric R. Sheppard.

Congratulations to the new members of the Patrol's "Over the Hill" club. The members of the 121st Academy Class were recognized for 30 years of service on February 24, and the members of the 122nd Academy Class were recognized for their 30 years of service on March 4.

FINDLAY DISTRICT



On December 14, personnel from the Findlay District and the Van Wert Post congregated at an area Walmart to purchase goods for four area “adopted” seniors. Dispatcher Patrick P. Bowsher and Administrative Professional Beth S. Bullinger, both of the Van Wert Post; Trooper Kyle J. Baxter, Findlay District Headquarters; and Trooper William J. Watson, Northwest recruiter, made sure the seniors had some gifts for the holidays.



On January 21, Lieutenant Bradley P. Longo and Trooper Tedd M. Bergeron, alongside Lucas County public safety partners, participated in an active shooter exercise at the Ohio Air National Guard’s 180th Fighter Wing. The exercise tested communication skills and teamwork during a critical incident.



BUCYRUS DISTRICT



On December 23, Milan Post Trooper Elizabeth A. Grabel joined staff from the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission at the Middle Ridge Service Plaza for a customer appreciation event. The event was held to thank travelers for their patronage and to promote safe travel during the holidays. Of all the patrons who were encountered, there was only one Grinch!

CLEVELAND DISTRICT



On December 18, the Elyria Post participated in the Sheffield Township annual Holiday Parade. The event is in partnership with various police, fire and EMS agencies from the area. All agencies paraded through the township with lights and sirens to help spread holiday cheer. Elyria Post Commander, Lieutenant Cliffton D. Dowell, seized the opportunity to recruit some future troopers.



On December 2, Elyria Post Commander, Lieutenant Cliffton D. Dowell, then Sergeant Pablo Cruz and Regional PIO Sergeant J. Ray Santiago, took part in the Lorain County Health Department's Annual Zero Proof Mix-off. The event promotes sobriety during the holiday season by offering attendees non-alcoholic cocktail recipes to use for their holiday festivities. A recipe competition highlighted the event and the Patrol's entry, "de-clawed" a non-alcoholic flavored seltzer, brought home the title of Best Tasting Drink.



On December 18, the Canton Post held a recruitment event hosted at Powerhouse Gym in North Canton. The event provided the gym's members the opportunity to meet with members of the Canton Post, Criminal Patrol Team and Special Response Team. (Photographed from left to right: Trooper Shawn F. Milburn, K9 Aira, Sergeant Johnnie H. Maier, Trooper Andre T. Thomas, Powerhouse Manager Dave Johnson, Trooper J'Vonne D. Humphreys)



Sergeant Johnnie H. Maier, Canton Post, was selected to assist the Georgia Highway Patrol with their Trooper to Corporal Assessment Center. Sergeants from North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, Louisiana, Maryland and Delaware all met at the Georgia Department of Public Safety Training Center February 7 – 13 to assist with assessing more than 150 candidates. The process involved assessing candidates on written communication, role play scenarios and policy presentation for consideration of promotional advancement.

WARREN DISTRICT

The Ravenna Post held their annual community holiday party and open house on December 13. A great time was had by all, but some were clearly working harder than others. While Dispatcher Kayla A. DeWitt was helping all of the children make reindeer food and crafts, Sergeant Bridget A. Matt was enjoying the hot cocoa. The entire post came together and treated community members with DIY ornaments, snacks and photos with Santa (a.k.a. Sergeant Adam M. Shonk).



On December 18, Troopers Lindsey M. Buckner and Diep N. Pham joined the Bazetta Police and Fire departments for their annual Shop With A Cop holiday program. The program received donations from the Bazetta Cortland Optimist Club, Cortland Masonic Lodge 529, American Legion Post 540 and local Walmart, which led to an increase in the number of children able to participate.



Dispatcher Michelle (Shelly) D. Higgins, Warren Dispatch Center, is always looking for ways to give back to her community, especially during the holiday season. Dispatcher Higgins heard Lieutenant Brian M. Vail's wife Heather was looking for sponsors to assist her with her annual Adopt-a-Grandparent Program. Dispatcher Higgins sought donations from employees throughout the Warren District Headquarters facility. The respective adopted grandparent received an inspirational gift that gave them an extra reason to smile during the holiday season. Because of Dispatcher Higgins' hard work and everyone's generosity, the Warren District facility was able to adopt 52 grandparents at two area retirement communities.



Lieutenant Brian M. Vail, Warren Post Commander, and Dispatcher Higgins in front of the Adopt-a-Grandparent Christmas tree, which displayed all of the gift tags from facility sponsors.

Trooper Emma M. Sweatt received a First Responder Award presented by the Canfield American Legion Post 117. The annual awards are given to area first responders in recognition of excellence in service. Trooper Sweatt was nominated and selected in recognition of her outstanding work in the area of removing impaired drivers from our roadways. Last year, she not only led the Canfield Post, but also the Warren District in OVI arrests.



PIQUA DISTRICT



Giddy-Up! On December 28, Trooper Kyle A. Radcliff of the Springfield Post was dispatched to locate a loose pony. There was no horsing around, he successfully used his rescue rope to catch it, safely reuniting it with its owner.



On December 2 and 3, troopers from the Piqua Post, Aviation Unit, SRT, Recruitment and the Piqua Police Department officers spent some time with students from Piqua High School who were interested in law enforcement. Students were able to talk with the troopers and officers about opportunities within the Patrol and the Piqua Police Department. The event was organized by now-retired Sergeant Jeffrey S. Kramer, who remains involved in the community.

COLUMBUS DISTRICT



Units at the Circleville Post joined other first responders for the Pickaway County Light the Sky event in December. Law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel drove by area hospitals and nursing homes to bring joy to residents and patients who may not make it home for the holidays.

CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT



In conjunction with the O'Neill Center, troopers with the Marietta post collected and distributed \$1,500 worth of donations to area residents who needed it most during the holidays. Items included blankets, food, and other hygiene and basic need supplies.



WILMINGTON DISTRICT



On December 17, Sergeant Nathan D. Stanfield, Lebanon Post, presented Logan M. Morrison with a "Saved by the Belt" certificate. Morrison's safety belt saved him from sustaining life-threatening injuries during a crash on Interstate 71 in Warren County in November.

JACKSON DISTRICT



After assisting the Wellston Police Department with a crash involving a school bus in December, Sergeant Nicholas C. Diehl, Jackson Post, sat with students and helped with coloring books and other activities while children waited on their parents.

40 YEARS OF SERVICE



Members of the Patrol's senior staff recognized two employees for 40 years of service to the State of Ohio.

PUCO Transportation Systems Administrator 1 James R. Feddern was recognized on January 10, and Financial Manager Jan E. Lawrence was recognized on February 1.

Congratulations to both employees for their service and continued work for Ohio.



RETIREES

Where are they now?

By Captain Rob Jackson, Retired

Retiree: Roger Bahr
Career: 92nd Academy Class, 1971 – Retirement, 1996

Assignments: Chillicothe - Trooper, Wilmington Post - Sergeant , Wilmington DHQ – Sergeant, Commercial Drivers License Coordinator / Commercial Enforcement Coordinator

Roger Bahr retired from the Ohio State Highway Patrol after a 25-year career and went on to serve as a technology coordinator for East Clinton Local School District. After seven years in IT, Roger and his wife Mary moved back home to Meigs County and he began driving a truck for a large greenhouse in Mason, W.Va. Delivering greenhouse products to 18 states, Roger drove semis, straight trucks and panel vans. One stretch even took him on trips to Miami, Fla., four Sundays in a row.

Roger and Mary have enjoyed two cruises visiting Saint Thomas, Puerto Rico and Cozumel, Mexico. Mary was his high school sweetheart and they have been married for 57 years. In 2015, they renewed their wedding vows on their 50th anniversary. Roger has two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

When asked what he misses most about the Highway Patrol, Roger said he missed the sense of pride when putting on the uniform and the respect the uniform drew, especially feeling

satisfaction when helping someone in need. He keeps in touch with another retired trooper and his wife from when they met in 1973 and have enjoyed the retiree cookout held at the Academy.

From 1985 to 1998, Roger and Mary were known by their alter ego “He n She DJs” and specialized in wedding receptions. Roger served as the DJ for yours truly at our wedding reception in 1991 and also at several OSHP functions.

After entering full retirement, Roger and Mary settled into the home where he was born, sitting on 12 acres of a 150-acre farm where he grew up. He raises chickens, ducks, rabbits and harvests three gardens, continuing his dad’s tradition of giving most of what he raises away to family and friends. Roger supplied a picture from his graduation day at the Academy.



HIGHWAY PATROL AUXILIARY



The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary, an all-volunteer force that provides assistance to troopers in the course of their duties, is accepting applications. To inquire or apply for a position in the Auxiliary:

email OSHPAux@dps.ohio.gov
or apply online:

<https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/recruit/auxiliary.html>

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HIGHWAY PATROL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Life after Retirement from Law Enforcement

Leaving active duty can be a difficult time for law enforcement officers. The challenge of this transition can be attributed to many things. The stress that most experience is associated with losing attachment to what has identified them nearly all their adult life. Adapting to "civilian life" is easier for some than others, but the right preparation can help.

The most successful transitions are those that plan for retirement emotionally, not just financially. In considering what you want to do in your retirement life, you should recognize that you are extremely marketable. Establish an objective of doing something about which you can be passionate. If you plan well, you just might begin the most rewarding part of your life, which is the feedback I receive from many.

Every retiree, regardless of rank or position held, leaves behind a unique legacy. The Ohio State Highway Patrol camaraderie experienced in active duty can be carried on in retirement. The most recognized way to stay engaged is through participation in active and retiree events.

Retiree breakfast gatherings, and other events occur on a regular basis throughout the state. Several events are planned each year by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees' Association. If you haven't attended one of these events, regardless of whether you are an active member or a retiree, I encourage you to do so. If you are an Ohio resident retiree, check with your local post to stay informed about scheduled events. Staying active in this network provides a tremendous support system and a social opportunity to stay engaged and informed.

Best Regards,

Carl Roark, Ph.D.
HPRS Executive Director



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OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Office of Recruitment

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HERBERT B. HOMAN
SECURITY SERVICES

Captain Herbert B. Homan, Security Services, retired on January 14, 2022, after 34 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1987 as an administrative staff member assigned to the Wooster Post. He became a member of the 118th Academy

Class in May 1989. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the former Walbridge Post. In 1993, he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. In 1994, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Piqua Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Wooster Post. In 2001, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and remained at the Wooster Post to serve as commander. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the former Massillon District Headquarters to serve as a district commander. Throughout his career, he has also served at the Bucyrus District Headquarters and in the Office of Business Services.

Captain Homan earned an Associate of Arts degree in business administration from the University of Akron in 1989. He also completed the Administrative Officer's Course at the Southern Police Institute in 2002. He earned a Bachelor of Specialized Study degree in psychology from Ohio University in 2010. He also earned a master's degree in criminal justice from Bowling Green State University in 2018.



ERIC R. SHEPPARD
CLEVELAND DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Captain Eric R. Sheppard, Cleveland District Headquarters, retired on January 14, 2022, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in April 1991 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the former Massillon District Headquarters.

He became a member of the 122nd Academy Class in January 1992. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Medina Post. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year twice and District Trooper of the Year in 1996. In 2000, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Norwalk Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Medina Post. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred

to the Canton Post to serve as post commander. In 2005, he earned the Criminal Patrol Award. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Cleveland District Headquarters to serve as an assistant district commander. In 2017, he was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the Warren District Headquarters to serve as commander. In 2021, he transferred to the Cleveland District.

Captain Sheppard completed the Administrative Officer's Course at the Southern Police Institute in 2008.



RYAN S. CHAPMAN
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

Staff Lieutenant Ryan S. Chapman, Office of Investigative Services, retired on December 17, 2021, after 29 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1992 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the Sandusky Post.

He became a member of the 125th Academy Class in May 1993. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Fremont Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Bucyrus District Criminal Investigations Unit. In 2002, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Cambridge District Criminal Investigation Unit. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Criminal Investigations to serve as commander. In 2013, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Investigative Services to serve as a commander.

Staff Lieutenant Chapman earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in police administration from Terra State Community College in 2004, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in leadership from Wheeling Jesuit University in 2010. He completed training at the Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2011.



WILLIAM H. STIDHAM
OFFICE OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Staff Lieutenant William H. Stidham, Office of Criminal Investigations, Criminal Patrol, retired on December 27, 2021, after 36 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 1985 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to

the Van Wert Post. He became a member of the 116th Academy Class in April 1987. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Findlay Post. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year three times and District Trooper of the Year in 1994. As a trooper, he also served at the Lima Post. In 1995, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Van Wert Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2006, he earned the Criminal Patrol Award. As a sergeant, he also served at the Findlay and Bowling Green posts and the Findlay District Headquarters. In 2008, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Defiance Post to serve as post commander. As a lieutenant, he also served at the Findlay District Criminal Patrol Unit and the Northwest Regional Criminal Patrol Unit. In 2015, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Criminal Patrol.

Staff Lieutenant Stidham earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in criminal justice from Columbus State Community College in 2013.



RANDY L. MCELFRISH
GEORGETOWN POST / DISTRICT 8

Lieutenant Randy L. McElfresh, Georgetown Post, retired on February 11, 2022, after 28 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1994 as a member of the 126th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of

that year and was assigned to the Batavia Post. In 1998, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. In 2003, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Georgetown Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2007, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Batavia Post to serve as post commander.

Lieutenant McElfresh completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2009.



SCOTT E. BUXTON
CAMBRIDGE POST / DISTRICT 7

Sergeant Scott E. Buxton, Cambridge Post, entered disability retirement on December 19, 2021, after 20 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 2001 as a member of the 138th Academy Class. He earned his

commission in April of the following year and was assigned to the Canton Post. In 2006, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the St. Clairsville and Cambridge posts. In 2016, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Marietta Post to serve as an assistant post commander.

Sergeant Buxton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from West Liberty University in 1993.



JOHN R. HOWARD
PORTSMOUTH POST / DISTRICT 9

Sergeant John R. Howard, Portsmouth Post, retired on January 3, 2022, after 27 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1994 as a member of the 126th Academy Class. He earned his commission

in July of that year and was assigned to the Portsmouth Post. In 2003, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. In 2011, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. He also earned the Criminal Patrol Award eight times. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Georgetown Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Gallipolis Post.

Sergeant Howard earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in engineering from Shawnee State University in 1992.



JEFFREY S. KRAMER
PIQUA POST / DISTRICT 5

Sergeant Jeffrey S. Kramer, Piqua Post, retired on February 11, 2022, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1997 as a member of the 128th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the Piqua

Post. In 1998 he earned the prestigious Superintendent's Citation of Merit Award and the O.W. Merrell Meritorious Service Award. In 2003, he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Dayton Post. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred back to the Dayton Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 2018, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement.

Sergeant Kramer served in the United States Navy from 1990 to 1992.



MICHAEL L. MCCLAIN
DEFIANCE POST / DISTRICT 1

Sergeant Michael L. McClain, Defiance Post, retired on January 28, 2022, after 31 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1990 as a member of the 120th Academy Class. He earned his commission in December of

that year and was assigned to the Mansfield Post. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year three times and District Trooper of the Year in 1997. As a trooper, he also served at the Defiance and Van Wert posts. In 1999, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Findlay Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Van Wert Post.



FELIX A. ROSARIO
BUCYRUS DISTRICT COMMERCIAL ENFORCEMENT UNIT

Sergeant Felix A. Rosario, Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on January 21, 2022, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in August 1990 as a cadet

dispatcher assigned to the Ashland and Elyria posts, and Cleveland Operations. He became a member of the 127th Academy Class in May 1995. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Defiance Post. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year twice and District Trooper of the Year in 2000. As a trooper, he also served at the Lima and Van Wert posts. In 2003, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Bucyrus Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Marion Post.



DALLAS S. SALYERS
IRONTON POST / DISTRICT 9

Sergeant Dallas (Shane) Salyers, Ironton Post, retired on February 4, 2022, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1997 as a member of the 128th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that

year and was assigned to the Ironton Post. In 2003, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Georgetown Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Jackson and Portsmouth posts.

Sergeant Salyers earned a Bachelor of Science degree in social science from Shawnee State University in 1996.



JEREMY S. WICKMAN
COLUMBUS POST / DISTRICT 6

Sergeant Jeremy (Sean) Wickman, Columbus Post, retired on January 10, 2022, after 21 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 2000 as a member of the 136th Academy Class. He earned his commission in March of

the following year and was assigned to the Lebanon Post. In 2008, he was selected as Post and District Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Training Academy and the Hamilton Post. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and remained at the Hamilton Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In that same year, he earned the Criminal Patrol Award. Throughout his career, he also served at the Lebanon and West Jefferson posts, Training Academy and the Crime Lab.

Sergeant Wickman served in the United States Air Force from 1995 to 1999 and the United States Air Force Reserve from 1999 to 2002.



PENNY A. BEATY
OFFICE OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Trooper Penny A. Beaty, Office of Criminal Investigations, Criminal Patrol, retired on January 7, 2022, after 26 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in May 1995 as a member of the 127th Academy Class. She earned her commission

in November of that year and was assigned to the Findlay Post. In 2007, she was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. She earned the Criminal Patrol Award twice. As a trooper, she also served at the Toledo, Ashland and Piqua posts, Findlay and Bucyrus district headquarters, and the Piqua District Criminal Investigations.



MICHAEL O. BROOKS
AVIATION UNIT

Trooper Michael O. Brooks, Aviation Unit, retired on February 11, 2022, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1992 as a member of the 122nd Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Chardon Post. As a trooper, he

also served at the West Jefferson Post.



ROBERT S. CHAPMAN
CANTON POST / DISTRICT 3

Trooper Robert S. Chapman, Canton Post, entered disability retirement on December 18, 2021, after 26 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1995 as a member of the 127th Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was

assigned to the Swanton Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Hiram, Ravenna and New Philadelphia posts.



DAVID C. COSTAS
WARREN POST / DISTRICT 4

Trooper David C. Costas, Warren Post, entered disability retirement on February 27, 2022, after 10 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in November 2011 as a stationary load limit inspector assigned to the Warren District Commercial

Enforcement Unit. In 2014, he was promoted to a motor carrier enforcement inspector and transferred to the Cambridge District Commercial Enforcement Unit. He became a member of the 158th Academy Class in March 2015. He earned his commission in September of that year and was assigned to the Chardon Post. In 2016, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. He earned the Criminal Patrol Award seven times.



WILLIAM T. DENDLER
DAYTON POST / DISTRICT 5

Trooper William T. Dendler, Dayton Post, retired on February 18, 2022, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1997 as a member of the 128th Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year and was assigned to the former

Eaton Post. In 2005, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Hamilton and Piqua posts and the Piqua District Commercial Enforcement Unit.

Trooper Dendler earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in criminal justice from the University of Cincinnati in 1992.



GARNER C. GROSS
WAPAKONETA POST / DISTRICT 5

Trooper Garner C. Gross, Wapakoneta Post, retired on January 6, 2022, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1998 as a member of the 132nd Academy Class. He earned his commission

in April of the following year and has been assigned to the Wapakoneta Post throughout his career. In 2004, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year.

Trooper Gross served in the United States Marines from 1992 to 1994.



ELTON LEE
CAPITOL OPERATIONS

Trooper Elton Lee, Capitol Operations, retired on December 20, 2021, after 28 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in January 1993 as a member of the 124th Academy Class. He earned his commission in June of that year and was assigned to

the Mansfield Post. As a trooper, he also served at the Granville and Delaware posts.

He served in the United States Air Force from 1980 to 1984 and the United States Marines from 1984 to 1988.



COREY C. WRIGHT
GEORGETOWN POST / DISTRICT 8

Trooper Corey C. Wright, Georgetown Post, retired on December 17, 2021, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1991 as a member of the 121st Academy Class. He earned his commission in

November of that year and was assigned to the Findlay Post. He also served at the Batavia Post.



JANA J. MCCLAIN
VAN WERT POST / DISTRICT 1

Trooper Jana J. McClain, Van Wert Post, retired on February 25, 2022, after 28 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in May 1993 as a member of the 125th Academy Class. She earned her commission in November of that year and was

assigned to the Defiance Post. In 2017, she was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, she also served at the Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



PATRICIA S. CSUHITA
CLEVELAND DISTRICT OFFICE

Enforcement Agent Patricia S. Csuhita, Cleveland District Office, retired on December 31, 2021, after 25 years of service to the state of Ohio. She began her service with the Ohio Investigative Unit, formerly the Ohio Department of

Liquor Control, in October 1996. She was assigned to the Akron District Office. As an agent, she also served as a food stamp fraud investigator.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in social work from University of Akron in 1995. She graduated from the University of Akron Police Academy in 1996.



LARRY A. SKAGGS
WARREN DISTRICT CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

Trooper Larry A. Skaggs, Warren District Criminal Investigations Unit, retired on February 4, 2022, after 27 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1997 as a member of the

129th Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Warren Post. In 2001, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. In 2003, he earned the prestigious Superintendent's Citation of Merit Award. In 2016, he earned the Trooper Recognition Award. He also earned the Excellence in Service Award twice and the Superintendent's Award of Excellence eight times. As a trooper, he also served at Cleveland Operations, the Warren Post and the Warren District Criminal Investigations Unit.

Trooper Skaggs served in the United States Army from 1988 to 1992.



DOUGLAS K. VANSICKLE
FINDLAY DISTRICT COMMERCIAL ENFORCEMENT UNIT

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Supervisor Douglas K. Vansickle, Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on December 31, 2021, after 25 years with the state. He

joined the Patrol in April 1996 as a maintenance repair worker 2 assigned to the Bowling Green Post. In 1998, he was promoted to motor carrier enforcement inspector and remained at the Bowling Green Post. In 2011, he earned the District and State Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector of the Year. In 2014, he was promoted to transportation investigator 2 and transferred to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. In 2016, he was promoted to motor carrier enforcement inspector supervisor and returned to the Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



**MICHELLE L. CYR
AVIATION UNIT**

Administrative Professional Michelle L. Cyr, Aviation Unit, retired on February 28, 2022, after 17 years with the state. She began her state career in October 2004 with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicle as a clerk 2. She joined the Patrol in April 2005 as a

photo laboratory assistant in the Photographic Services Unit. In 2006, she was promoted to an administrative professional 1 and transferred to the Columbus District. She earned the District Employee Recognition Award twice. As an administrative professional 1, she also served at the Delaware Post.

Administrative Professional Cyr served in the United States Air Force from 1989 to 1993. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Columbia Southern University in 2009.



**LADONNE M. FULLEN
FISCAL SERVICES**

Fiscal Analyst LaDonne M. Fullen, Fiscal Services, retired on January 31, 2022, after 31 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in November 1990 as a word processing specialist 1 assigned to the Office of Planning Services. In 1992, she was promoted to word

processing specialist 2 and transferred to the Office of Inspection & Standards. In 1995, she was promoted to account clerk 3 and transferred to the Office of Fiscal Management/Payroll Section. In 1996, she was promoted to account examiner 3 and remained in Office of Fiscal Management/Payroll Section. In 2015, she was promoted to financial analyst and transferred to the Office of Finance and Logistics, Fiscal Services.



**ROGER L. HARDBARGER
TRAINING ACADEMY**

Maintenance Repair Worker 3 Roger L. Hardbarger, Training Academy, retired on February 25, 2022, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1997 as a maintenance repair worker 2 assigned to the Office of Personnel. As a maintenance repair

worker 2, he also served at the Patrol's Training Academy. In 2015, he was promoted to maintenance repair worker 3 and remained at the Patrol's Training Academy.



**MILDRED H. WILLIAMS
CRASH FARS**

Data Entry Operator 3 Mildred H. Williams, Crash FARS, retired on December 20, 2021, after 35 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in May 1986 as a data entry operator 2 and was assigned to the Crash FARS Unit throughout her career. In 2011, she was promoted

to data entry operator 3.

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HIGHWAY HIGHLIGHTS

Comments received via social media.



Krissy Kabana Gonzales
Private Message to Ohio State Highway Patrol

I would like to send a gold star to the woman officer that helped my husband on 80 west near Delta Saturday night. He has dementia and was lost out of gas and 148 miles from home. She spoke with me on the phone and together we got him some help. He then got headed in the right direction and our daughter was able to find him and get him home. What could have had a disastrous outcome was diverted. Unfortunately I did not get her name or badge number but I want to send my heartfelt thank you to her. You are an outstanding officer and make the Ohio State Patrol proud. We need more officers of your caliber.
THANK YOU



Mandi Abram

This morning I blew a tire on my semi and was pulled off on 71 northbound by 11th ave, one of your troopers stopped to check on me, I didn't catch his name. I just wanted to say thank you for that, it was raining and he took the time to get out to make sure I was okay. [Show Less](#)



Joshua Smith

This officer was so nice to help carry out ALOT of toys to my wife's car after shop with a cop I didn't get his name but he was super nice



Felicia Caffey-Lewis
11h · 🌐

This morning I was coming home from Youngstown after finishing my turn taking care of my mom. (For those who don't know my mom had a stroke so my siblings and I decided to bring our mom home to do the best we can for her for as long as we can.) A safety feature in my SUV started beeping, just as I heard the noise I passed by a state trooper. (God always has a ram in the bush 🙏🙏🙏) I continued to drive but slowed down to pull off to the side of the road. I was looking up what the icon meant on my dash board and heard a knock on my window, I look up and it was the state trooper. He asked are you waiting for help? I said I'm trying to figure out what this icon means.... he said you have a flat tire in the rear driver side. I said oh 🙏 (my SUV was not shaking or feeling wobbly as I was driving, which is why I didn't know my tire was flat. the second miracle, God is a wonder 🙏🙏🙏) Long story short, he said if you have a spare I will change it for you and that will save you some time and you won't have to use a roadside assistance call. He changed my tire in no time and I was back on the road.

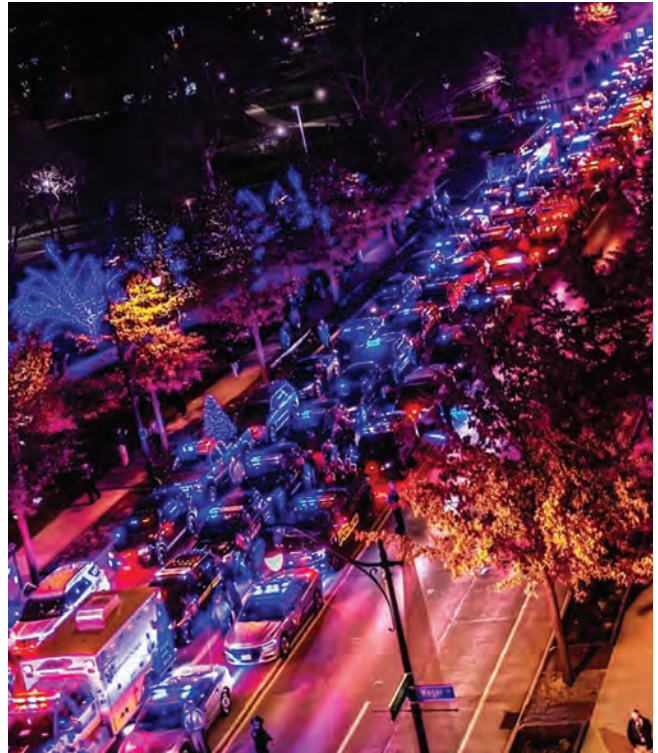
I just want to say **THANK YOU Trooper Nathan Krug!!!!**
Your kindness meant the world to me this morning. I pray that God will always protect you and give you a safe long healthy career!
There are excellent law enforcement out here and I'm a witness Trooper Krug is one of them!



Patty Brewer

Hello, my name is Patricia Brewer. Unfortunately I was stopped yesterday close to Upper Sandusky and Bucyrus because of my speed on Route 30 heading West to my son's home. I didn't have my cruise set because of a rain drizzle and at times I was not paying attention to how fast I was going. The state patrolman that pulled me over was Sgt. M Smith. I just wanted to reach out to say the Sgt Smith was extremely cordial. He spoke calmly and was very nice, probably recognizing I was upset being pulled over. Anyway, in the world of everyone saying they hate the police, I am NOT one of them and I wanted to just let someone know that Sgt Smith was very kind and respectful. He does not have an easy job and I am sorry that I was one of those that put his life at risk in having to step out of his vehicle on a very busy highway. Please send to Sgt M Smith if possible! Merry Christmas and be safe. Patty Brewer [Show Less](#)

OPERATION SANTA'S SLEIGH



FLYING WHEEL

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

Mike DeWine – Governor, State of Ohio
 Thomas Stickrath – Director,
 Ohio Department of Public Safety
 Colonel Richard S. Fambro – Superintendent,
 Ohio State Highway Patrol
 Editor: S/Lt Tiffany L. Meeks
 tlmeeks@dps.ohio.gov
 Reporters: Lt. Nathan E. Dennis, Sgt. Brice A. Nihiser,
 Julie L. Hinds, Alexis E. Bartolomucci, Jeffrey W. Grayson,
 Michele L. DeGraffinreed
 Graphic Design: DPS Megan Olger

Contributors
 Findlay District – Sgt. Ryan E. Purpura
 Bucyrus District – Sgt. Ryan E. Purpura
 Cleveland District – Sgt. Juan R. Santiago
 Warren District – Sgt. Juan R. Santiago
 Piqua District – Sgt. Ryan E. Purpura
 Columbus District – Lt. Nathan E. Dennis
 Cambridge District – Sgt. Brice A. Nihiser
 Wilmington District – Sgt. Ryan E. Purpura
 Jackson District – Sgt. Brice A. Nihiser

Criminal Investigations – AP4 Tiffany C. DeArmond
 Field Operations – Sgt. Corey Pennington
 Personnel – PA2 Jessica L. Scalley
 Finance and Logistics – AP4 Pamela H. Walker
 Security & Communications – Lt. Chad Maines
 Planning, Research & Development – Lt. Jerod L. Keyes
 Training, Recruitment & Diversity – S/Lt. Darren K. Thomas
 Auxiliary – Lt. Col. William J. Sanford

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

I grew up watching the Dukes of Hazard. One of my favorite parts was when Rosco P. Coltrane got into a hot pursuit. I can still hear his laugh. Who among us doesn't like a good pursuit?

Pursuit is defined as the action of following or pursuing someone or something. We hear talk of individuals pursuing their dream, pursuing a career, and the pursuit of happiness.

We all understand we can pursue people as well.

I pursued my wife, Danita, as we started dating. I took that pursuit seriously, but something happened as we got more serious in our relationship. I stopped being intentional about pursuing her. That is the tension we live with. How do we continue to pursue that which is already ours? The lack of pursuit brought us to a bump in the road that caused me to realize that I needed to find ways to continue to pursue her. Together, we have come up with a plan that communicates to her that I still choose her and believe she is worth going after.

I have come to believe that her coming into my life, along with every other good thing in my life, is not the net result of my own striving, but the gift of Almighty God. One of my favorite authors is C.S. Lewis. Here is a quote of his from *The Four Loves*:

"In friendship...we think we have chosen our peers. In reality a few years' difference in the dates of our births, a few more miles between certain houses, the choice of one university instead of another...the accident of a topic being raised or not raised at a first meeting--any of these chances might have kept us apart. But, for a Christian, there are, strictly speaking no chances. A secret master of ceremonies has been at work. Christ, who said to the disciples, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you," can truly say to every group of Christian friends, "Ye have not chosen one another but I have chosen you for one another." The friendship is not a reward for our discriminating and good taste in finding one another out. It is the instrument by which God reveals to each of us the beauties of others."

- C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*

Lewis quotes a passage of scripture that speaks to the fact that we did not choose to pursue God. Rather, God has chosen to pursue us. Let's face it. He chose to pursue us when we didn't have much that made us desirable. Still, He came after us. That amazes me. What amazes me more is that He continues in relentless pursuit. He never calls off the chase. Why, you may ask. He just wants to be close and for us to know we are worth going after.

My prayer for you today is simply this: "May His love apprehend you."

Blessings!

Reverend Phil Hurlbert



State Chaplain



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

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