



FLYING WHEEL

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Agencies partner to make
Ohio's school buses safer
see pg. 5

COLONEL'S LETTER



Sometimes we get so busy that it is easy to lose sight of the many good things that are happening to strengthen our Ohio State Highway Patrol family. So, in my letter for this issue of the Flying Wheel, I wanted to share several things your senior staff are doing to make our family better. As you read this, I hope you see common themes of accessibility, availability and communication – all qualities of a healthy family.

I want to start off by expressing my appreciation to Governor Mike DeWine for recognizing the immediate need to retain Ohio State Highway Patrol employees, and the necessity to increase the number of hires in certain classifications of the Patrol.

There is a lot to report on, and first I want to cover the change to the new performance evaluations for bargaining unit sworn members that is intended to be more job specific for the bargaining unit, and provide management with the ability to better evaluate what our troopers, sergeants, Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) agents and police officers are actually doing on a daily basis. We felt the previous evaluation didn't give us the opportunity to accurately evaluate our people. I know the new evaluation process is different, and it will take some time to work through the nuances of it, but the job of a state trooper, OIU agent and police officer is so niche and specific it just wasn't appropriate to use the same evaluation instrument for all positions.

Our Office of Personnel is actively engaged in Labor-Management Committee meetings with OSTA. It is important to ensure that all stakeholders know there is common ground between management and labor. We all want the best for people in this Division and for the Division itself. With that said, if we find ways to work together by bringing more ideas to the table and finding a common ground, that's definitely something we're willing to explore and look at collectively.

We have an active senior staff follow-up process where we reach out to individual officers for a variety of personal reasons. It's important to let people know that we are engaged, connected, and to genuinely care about our people and want the best for them. As an example, our goal as your senior staff is to be represented at each retirement.

Similarly, we have a senior staff member assigned as a liaison with each district to establish a go-to person on senior staff for that district. This model is by design to give a senior staff member the opportunity to have open dialogue, be available and listen to what's going on in the district, as well as answering any questions first-hand that our commanders may have of senior management.

Our inspection process includes leadership surveys. Major Michael Kemmer attends the audits and risk assessments on a regular basis as another opportunity for senior staff to bridge the gap between GHQ and the field. It's a great opportunity for him to hear from first-line supervisors and post commanders on how things are going, to have leadership-based discussions and to answer questions from the post leadership team.

I am also out there, visiting with troopers at OVI checkpoints and during holiday reporting periods, and attending District/Section family day events. When I added 'Family' as a core value, it was not just a symbolic gesture. Families get stronger by spending time together.

We are taking a global approach to recruitment and retention for sworn personnel and professional staff. Since 2020, we have seen a significantly high rate of turnover within our sworn and professional staff positions. In addition to that, we also know our sworn personnel have been challenged by issues related to the pandemic and significant civil unrest that impacted the law enforcement profession across the country. In the first 11 months of 2022, the Office of Personnel processed more than 200 positions through retirements, resignations, terminations and new hires. So yes, the personnel strains you are feeling across the Division are real, and I don't want to minimize the added stress that has placed on so many of you. We are trying some new things to hopefully turn things in our favor.

On the sworn officer side, we are working towards being able to recruit cadets geographically so we can get employees to where they want to be after graduating from the Training Academy – ideally within 50 miles of home. Rest assured, to get there we can't and won't place cadets ahead of sworn officers when an Academy class graduates.

Traditionally, we only transferred current officers in association with the graduation of an Academy class. Our new model has interim rounds of transfers to get people to where they ultimately want to be and to keep the transfer portal as cleared out as possible. This will help us see where our greatest need will be so we can do a more efficient job in recruiting. We'll try this model with transfers following the graduation of the 170th class in January 2023 and before the allocation process for the 171st class.

For professional staff, specifically for Motor Carrier Enforcement inspectors (MCEI), new position posting models are being considered by Public Safety's Human Resources Office, our Office of Personnel, Licensing and Commercial Standards (LCS), and the OCSEA. Historically, those positions are posted at a district headquarters, but we are increasingly having a difficult time getting those positions filled.

We plan to decentralize the hiring model out of the district headquarters. LCS is identifying report-in locations around the state where they want to place MCEIs. This will allow us to better recruit and retain employees.

As Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers, we are highly-trained individuals who receive continual training throughout our careers. As such, we are committed to ensuring our troopers/sworn personnel are properly equipped for law enforcement in 2022 and beyond. That went into the decision to individually issue a rifle to each officer. Our officers have a tremendous responsibility, and we must remain law enforcement professionals. To that end, it is vitally important that each sworn officer has a weapon that is properly sighted and an adjusted sling specifically for them. This allows the sworn officer to have faith and confidence in the set-up of that weapon so they can deploy it in the most effective manner.

Trace-back investigations offer additional penalties for alcohol-related incidents. Since 2019, OIU agents conducted over 760 trace-back investigations of adults involved in a fatal or serious injury vehicle crash who were suspected of consuming alcohol or drugs at a permit premises or other location in violation of the law. There is so much value in these trace-backs, which can also be conducted for any intoxicated person under the age of 21 found in an arrest situation or involved in a fatal or serious injury vehicle crash regardless if it was at a liquor permit premise or private party.

I want you to know we will continue looking for new ways to make our family stronger. In January, a diverse group of professionals from across our agency will assess our strengths and weaknesses, and identify new opportunities where we can make a difference by providing meaningful Service with a Purpose for the citizens of Ohio. The result of their work will be our roadmap for effective public safety services in a new 2023-2026 strategic plan.

Impact 23 will set our path for effective public safety services throughout this year. There will be much more about Impact 23 in the Flying Wheel's next issue.

Finally, in early 2023, members of Ohio's General Assembly will decide upon our next two-year budget. We are well positioned heading into the budget process because of the great successes, and incredible challenges we have faced and overcome. Our accomplishments belong to each of you – the hard-working employees across Ohio, who regardless of assignment or classification, have stayed with us and continue to answer the call of service to others.

You are appreciated and I am confident better days are ahead for our family.

God bless our fallen. God bless the families. And, God bless the Ohio State Highway Patrol.



Colonel Charles A. Jones
Superintendent



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AGENCIES PARTNER TO MAKE OHIO'S SCHOOL BUSES SAFER

In October, the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) announced an effort between multiple state agencies and private sector businesses that will make Ohio school buses more visible to other motorists and safer for the 1.6 million students transported on them.

OSHP, ODOT and Ohio Department of Education (ODE) partnered to create new highly-reflective "STOP" decals for the rear of every school bus in the state.

The idea was brought about by troopers in the Patrol's Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit. They saw a need for increased visibility and worked with ODOT, ODE, manufacturers and various safety committees to vet the idea. During their research, Ohio troopers found no other state offering such a safety mechanism. The decals were printed by ODOT's Sign Shop and provided to the schools at no cost.

The program was piloted by nine school districts and they completed a survey to report their results. Of the eight districts who responded to the survey, all stated the new reflective signs were more effective than the standard, non-reflective STOP decal currently displayed on the rear of school buses. All districts also indicated the reflective STOP decal would improve school bus safety in

dusk/dawn lighting conditions and in rain.

The districts who participated included:

- Centerville City Schools (Montgomery)
- Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools (Cuyahoga)
- Columbus City Schools (Franklin)
- Dublin City Schools (Franklin)
- Green Local Schools (Summit)
- Huber Heights City Schools (Montgomery)
- Marysville Exempted Village School District (Union)
- Massillon City Schools (Stark)
- Union-Scioto Local School District (Ross)

"The feedback has been positive and everyone is getting on board," said Staff Lieutenant Aaron J. Reimer, Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit. "The partnerships with ODOT, ODE and the school districts have been great."

Since 2017, there have been 6,519 school bus-related crashes. Of these crashes, 1,421 involved a driver following too close and 712 involved a driver failing to yield.

The process started in May 2022, and by the end of January 2023, all new decals are scheduled to be shipped out to every school district in Ohio. At that time, each of the state's nearly 20,000 school buses will be outfitted with the new decals.



Members of the Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit were awarded with a Certificate of Recognition for their work. Pictured are, from left, Trooper Joel D. Hughes, Lieutenant Corey W. Pennington, Sergeant Justin D. Dement, Trooper Jeremy C. Albert, Trooper Mark A. Murray and Staff Lieutenant Aaron J. Reimer.



Reflective bus decals.

LINEK PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL

On September 11, Major Charles J. Linek III was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel by Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent. He was recognized during a ceremony at the Patrol's Training Academy. Lieutenant Colonel Linek transferred from his previous assignment as commander of the Office of Personnel to serve in the Office of the Superintendent.

Lieutenant Colonel Linek began his Patrol career 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 Granville Post. As a trooper, he also served in the Office of Personnel. While serving in the Office of Personnel, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 1999, lieutenant in 2004, staff lieutenant in 2009 and captain in 2014. As a captain, he also served in the Office of Planning, Research and Development. In 2019, he was promoted to the rank of major and transferred to the Office of Personnel to serve as commander.

Lieutenant Colonel Linek served in the Ohio Air National Guard from 1986 to 1992. He earned

a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Bowling Green State University in 1991. He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2006.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL GASKILL RETIRES

Lieutenant Colonel Marla K. Gaskill, Office of the Superintendent, retired with more than 33 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Ohio and the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Lieutenant Colonel Gaskill is a trailblazer. She was the first and only female to serve as a Patrol pilot and the first woman in Patrol history to earn the rank of lieutenant colonel.

She began her Patrol career in May 1989 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the New Philadelphia Post. Lieutenant Colonel Gaskill began her training as a member of the 119th Academy Class in January 1990. She earned her commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Wooster Post. In 1995, she transferred to the Aviation Section to serve as the first female pilot for the Patrol.

In 1997, Lieutenant Colonel Gaskill was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Norwalk Post to serve as an assistant post commander. In 1998, she transferred to the Delaware Post and in 2000, she transferred to the Administrative Investigation Unit. In 2001, she was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Marysville Post to serve as a post commander. In 2006, she was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and served in the Office of Personnel, Field Operations and Capitol Operations. In 2011, she was promoted to the rank

of captain and assumed command of the Fiscal Services Section, overseeing the budget for the Patrol. In 2016, she was promoted to major and became the commander for the Office of Planning and Finance for the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Lieutenant Colonel Gaskill was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel on March 18, 2019, and is the first woman to hold the rank of lieutenant colonel in Patrol history.

Lieutenant Colonel Gaskill is a graduate of the University of Louisville, Southern Police Institute and attended the U.S. Army War College. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Capital University, a Master of Business Administration degree from Franklin University, and a Master of Public Administration degree from Ohio University.



PATROL IMPLEMENTS NEW UNIFORM POLICY

On October 14, Colonel Charles A. Jones announced a change to the Ohio State Highway Patrol's uniform policy. The policy, which took effect immediately, stated current troopers and potential applicants were permitted to wear the long sleeve uniform shirt to cover tattoos.

Major Anne R. Ralston, Office of Personnel, explained there was a great deal of thought and discussion that went into the decision to change the policy. It ultimately resulted in the agency providing the opportunity for people with visible tattoos to become employed with us as a state trooper. This was a historic change to the uniform appearance.

Future employees with tattoos that would be visible when wearing the short-sleeve uniform shirt are required to wear long sleeves. As part of the policy revision, troopers with visible tattoos

will wear the issued long sleeve uniform shirt year-round.

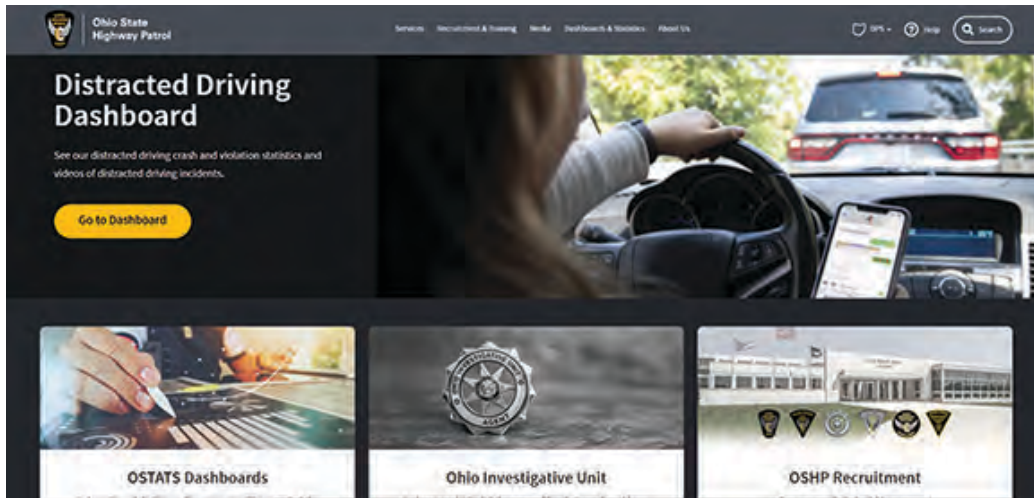
Major Ralston said policies were examined from around the country as well as working closely with 6-State partners. In addition to the policy change, the Patrol also entered into an agreement with the Ohio State Troopers Association regarding contract language.

The change, Major Ralston added, has been received overwhelmingly well. She said the Division is also seeing trooper applicants coming to the agency with visible tattoos.

"This has definitely been a team effort to make this change," Major Ralston said. "Through leadership from the Superintendent's Office and support of senior leadership, professional staff, the OSTA Union and the Director's Office, we were able to make this idea a reality."



NEW PATROL WEBSITE DEBUTS



A new Ohio State Highway Patrol website launched on August 31 after a months-long project.

The new website was completed in partnership with Base22 and the Ohio Department of Public Safety's (ODPS) Visual Communications, while under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted. InnovateOhio is advancing the DeWine Administration's commitment to leading an aggressive, innovative path towards a better and stronger Ohio. The Patrol's website was the first to be re-designed as part of a project that will eventually see all DPS-Division websites get a makeover.

By focusing on a content-first approach to the design, the new website is more user-friendly, organized and functional than its predecessor. It is ADA-compliant and has responsive templates and components that make it as accessible on a handheld device as on a laptop or PC. Additionally, the availability of detailed site analytics allows for a better assessment of where visitors to the website are going and what topics are most important to the customers we serve.

Current events, popular resources and Patrol-related news headlines are prominently featured on the front page and easily updated to ensure content remains fresh to drive visitors back to the site on a regular basis.

The site has five main areas where visitors can obtain information and learn about the public value of the Division. Those sections are Services, Recruitment & Training, Media, Dashboards & Statistics, and About Us.

Notably, the website's Recruitment section

received the most significant overhaul as the Division and Recruitment Collaborative Group continue to drive potential applicants for trooper and professional staff positions to the website for information and to apply online for open positions.

The website design also provides better opportunities for ongoing improvements that may be identified in the future.

Business Process Analyst 1 Timothy Bates and Electronic Design Specialist Kandee Tinkham from ODPS Visual Communications received Certificates of Recognition at the December 8 commanders meeting for their expertise and thoughtful insights throughout the design process which ensured the Division's online presence was enhanced to better serve visitors to the website.

ODPS Electronic Design Specialist Laura Milem also received a Certificate of Recognition for the development of substantial graphic design projects that promote public safety. ODPS Videographer Tom Stiver received a Certificate of Recognition for producing nearly 150 critical videos since 2020 for employees of the Patrol.



Colonel Charles Jones presented Kandee Tinkham, Laura Milem, Timothy Bates and Tom Stiver with Certificates of Recognition on December 8.

OIU AGENT NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Agent Stephen C. Cox is the 2022 National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA) Alcohol Law Enforcement Agent of the Year. He earned the honor in September at the NLLEA's 35th Annual Conference in Pittsburgh. Selected from nominees across the United States, Agent Cox credited the impact from his Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) colleagues as integral to the success that led to the national award. Earlier this year, Agent Cox was named the OIU's Agent of the Year during the 2021 Ohio State Highway Patrol Leadership Awards.

Agent Cox focuses on addressing drug violations, illegal weapons offenses and violent crimes in and around Ohio's liquor permit premises. He is firmly dedicated to the enforcement of liquor laws, regulations and the public health and safety of the community he serves.



OHIO INVESTIGATIVE UNIT AGENT SWEARING IN



On September 19, Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent, swore in Ohio Investigative Unit Agent Jessica C. Cerda, Toledo District Office.

9/11 STAIR CLIMB



Members of #OSHPCadetClass170 and #OSHPBasic147 were honored to join The Ohio State University Army ROTC Program for their annual Tri-Service 9-11 Stair Climb on September 7 at The Ohio State University's Ohio Stadium.

PATRIOT AWARDS



On September 9, at the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Training Academy, the Transportation Security Administration's Ohio Field Office recognized more than 30 people at its second annual TSA Patriot Awards ceremony.

Ohio Federal Security Director Donald Barker honored TSA employees, military veterans, and others from across the state including current and past members of the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Patrol recipients included current members: Captain Daniel E. Springs and Privacy & Compliance Officer Heather S. Frient, as well as Public Safety Director Thomas Stickrath.

Patrol retiree recipients included: Colonel Richard S. Fambro, Lieutenant Colonel Marla K. Gaskill, Colonel Paul A. Pride, Dispatch Manager Lydia Frey and Lieutenant Mike Gore. All were honored for answering the call of duty and helping keep America safe since 9/11. Retired Patrol Colonel Thomas W. Rice accepted the award for Patrol Chaplain Richard D. Ellsworth, who was honored posthumously. The OSHP Honor Guard presented colors and Trooper Jessica A. McIntyre sang the National Anthem.

AAMVA AWARDS AND CONFERENCE

In November, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) Region 3, gathered for the annual conference. This year's conference took place at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel. During the conference, the Ohio State Highway Patrol hosted law enforcement officials from the AAMVA Region 3 at the aviation hangar to show them the resources that are offered to partner agencies across the state. Using the Patrol's subject matter experts, discussions about specialty programs and how they are managed, as well as best practices, were presented.

The Patrol was honored with a regional and a national PACE Division 7: Websites and Technology Award; Category 7A: Website, Internally Produced for the Patrol for the Mental Health and Wellness webpage.

The award honors the Patrol site which promotes health and wellness to sworn and professional staff, along with resources specifically for military veterans. The site supports Patrol employees in

four categories: Support, Self-Help, Listen and Watch, and Nutrition. The site provides resources and information to help combat challenging life events.

Lieutenant Molly J. Harris, Staffing Services, and Communications Electronic Design Specialist Kandee F. Tinkham worked together to put the site together. The web page was designed to be a one-of-a-kind resource associated with mental health.



Lieutenant Colonel Joshua M. Swindell received the AAMVA national PACE Division 7: Websites and Technology Award; Category 7A: Website, Internally Produced for the Patrol for the Mental Health and Wellness webpage on behalf of the Patrol.

HAWKINS RECEIVES MILITARY SERVICE AWARD



Congratulations to Sergeant Brian W. Hawkins from the New Philadelphia Post as this year's recipient of the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Military Service Award. Sergeant Hawkins is a retired U.S. Marine reservist who served in combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He continues his support for veterans and those still serving, raising money to assist various organizations.

171 CADET CLASS SIGNING DAY & FIRST DAY

The Ohio State Highway Patrol kicked off the 171st Cadet Class with a signing day on November 14. Recruits gathered at their closest district headquarters with family and friends to sign a letter of intent to become a member of the next Academy class. The 171st Cadet Class training commenced on Tuesday, November 15 at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy in Columbus.



WENGER EARNS GXT PERFECT SCORE

On November 29, Trooper Hollin C. Wenger was recognized for his perfect score on the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Health and Physical Fitness Evaluation. Thousands of troopers have taken the Graded Exercise Test (GXT) over the years, but only 10 have earned a perfect score of 500.



YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS



On October 31, members of the Patrol's senior staff recognized Financial Analyst Supervisor Michele K. Flanery, Fiscal Services, for her 40 years of service to the state of Ohio.



On October 31, members of the Patrol's senior staff recognized Administrative Professional 1 Charlene M. Grady, Warren District Headquarters, for her 35 years of service to the state of Ohio.

FINDLAY DISTRICT

In October, Findlay District range officers qualified retired troopers at the Allen Correctional Institution. Under LEOSA, retired officers are required to qualify annually to carry a concealed firearm using their retiree credentials. There were nearly 30 retirees at the qualification. The retirees had a great time shooting and reminiscing about their time spent with the Patrol.



Trooper Kenton J. Gibson, Lima Post, was recognized by the Lima-Allen County Safe Community Coalition for his contribution toward traffic safety. He was presented his award at the 24th Annual Safe Community Awards Luncheon in September, where he and other first responders and public safety members were recognized for their efforts in making Allen County safer. Kenton's father, Trooper Gerald L. Gibson, Findlay District Office of Investigative Services, was also in attendance.



BUCYRUS DISTRICT

On September 15, Norwalk Post troopers participated in a mock crash and a DRIVE to Live event at St. Paul High School in Norwalk. The message to the 200 students in attendance was to always make good choices while in a vehicle, including the homecoming weekend.



BUCYRUS DISTRICT

Troopers from the Milan Post joined traffic safety partners at the Ohio Turnpike Commodore Perry Service Plaza to promote safe travels as Labor Day travel began. Troopers had a cruiser on display and spoke with motorists as they stopped at the plaza to take a break. The Cleveland Police Museum also displayed several former Patrol cruisers.



CLEVELAND DISTRICT

On October 30, the Medina Post held a Can the Cruiser event at the Forest Meadows Buehler's in Medina. As a result of the event, 715 pounds of food was collected. All items were donated to Feeding Medina County.



On November 22, the Cleveland Post partnered with the Red Cross to host a blood drive. Trooper Hiram Morales organized the event at the Cleveland District Headquarters and was able to help facilitate the donation of 16 units of blood to help save lives.



On November 21, Trooper Richard J. Kluever and Sergeant Cristian A. Perrin from the Ashland Post helped serve food at the Community Thanksgiving Meal hosted by the Ashland Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. Approximately 270 community members were provided a free hot Thanksgiving meal.



On November 19, the Canton Post hosted a Can the Cruiser event at Acme Fresh Market in North Canton. Dispatchers from our Canton Dispatch Center and troopers from our Canton Post were assisted by the North Canton Police Department. Due to the incredible response and generosity from the community, they were able to collect 2,400 pounds of non-perishable food items. All items collected were donated to the North Canton Cares Pantry. Pictured are (from left): Dispatcher Supervisor Amanda H. Hermann, Dispatcher Jennifer M. Jackson, Trooper Shannon E. Mohney and Trooper William B. Kanters.



WARREN DISTRICT

On October 29, the Lisbon Post participated in three different Trunk or Treat events around Columbiana County. Trooper Bruce A. Palmer was out working and meeting with the community in East Palestine. While passing out candy, he found himself with a recruitment opportunity for a young man looking to be hired in approximately 16 years.



On November 19, members of the Warren Post, along with our fellow safety service partners, participated in the fourth annual Trumbull County “Can the Cruiser” and “Fill the Pot” food drives. Between all five collection points, nearly 4 tons of food donations were collected. The collected food was donated to Niles Community Services, Cortland Area Cares, Bolindale Christian Church Food Pantry, Howland Community Church Food Pantry and the Champion Pride Council.



Trooper Matthew J. Soeder and Ravenna resident, James B. Newman Sr., were honored on November 29 for their life-saving efforts following a devastating rollover motor vehicle crash earlier this year. Trooper Soeder was presented with the Distinguished Service Medallion Award and Mr. Newman was presented with the Certificate of Recognition Award from Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent.



The Aurora Children’s Early Learning Center director invited the Patrol to visit the learning center. Trooper Megan L. Faith, Ravenna Post, and Trooper Diep N. Pham, Hiram Post, visited the children to share about their jobs as troopers and what they do. The children were excited to have such special guests read to them and get familiar with law enforcement officers in uniform. The children even sang them a song to show their appreciation to the Patrol.



PIQUA DISTRICT

On September 5, the Springfield Post held a butterfly launch in memory of Lieutenant Brian K. Aller. Friends and family were in attendance as his immediate family - Kristin, Janet, Caleb and Hannah - released butterflies. Afterwards, there was a gathering held at the Springfield Post in memory of Lieutenant Aller.



COLUMBUS DISTRICT

On November 10, personnel from the Licensing and Commercial Standards Unit participated in the Ohio Department of Public Safety Job Fair at the Shipley Building.



Lieutenant Kari L. Riebesell, Office of Criminal Investigations, Capitol Operations, was the Patrol's honoree on First Responders Night at the Columbus Crew soccer game against the Portland Timbers on September 18. She joined other first responders on the field at Lower.com Stadium during the halftime ceremony.



CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT

Officer Marko Raue of the Hesse Police in Germany visited the Marietta Post on September 6. Officer Raue met with Lieutenant Richard C. Chesar, Sergeant Eric C. Knowlton, Trooper Caleb D. Courson and Trooper David R. Handschumacher (also from Germany). The Marietta units gave Officer Raue a tour of the Post, engaged in great discussion, and in the good spirit of recruiting, they gave Officer Raue a recruitment business card.



WILMINGTON DISTRICT

On October 6, Lieutenant Dexter T. Howard and Trooper Sara E. Mitchell, both of the Batavia Post, presented Hayli DeWeese with a "Life Saving" award.

Over the summer, Hayli's mother suffered a medical emergency and became unresponsive while operating a vehicle. Upon realizing her mother was unresponsive, Hayli was able to maintain her composure and steer the vehicle until it came to a stop. When the vehicle came to a stop, Hayli remained calm and called 911, giving an accurate description of her mother's condition. Trooper Mitchell arrived on scene and rendered first aid until EMS arrived. Hayli's actions undoubtedly prevented serious injury and/or loss of life to herself, her mother and other motorists on the roadway.



JACKSON DISTRICT

There is no question a lot has changed in the Ohio State Highway Patrol since John Tripplehorn graduated as part of the 44th Academy Class in November 1955. John would see much change within the Division over the span of his more than 20-year career. One thing that has remained consistent over the past 67 years, since John graduated from the Academy, is the value of family in the Patrol. Once you become a member of the Patrol, you become part of the family.

People may have different perceptions of what a family actually is, but one thing we know is family always takes care of family. That became apparent when John attended the Jackson District family outing in September.



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John came to the cookout to see old friends and meet new people, but he also came with the intention of selling his OSHP commemorative pistol. John was in desperate need of a new roof for his home. With the rising costs of materials and labor, he was attempting to sell the pistol to afford the roof he needed before winter.

When the staff in the Jackson District heard about the situation, there was no hesitation to put a plan in place for a new roof. By the time the family outing was over, Trooper Joshua D. McCarty, Jackson Post, stepped up to offer his assistance. He has an off-duty construction company and offered to donate his crew's time to the roof. Volunteers from the district assisted the crew with construction tasks to ensure the job was completed. On October 15, John got his new roof, with the help of the construction crew and his Patrol family.



HIGHWAY PATROL RETIREMENT SYSTEM

When is the best time to go into the DROP?

There have been many times as a former commander and now the Executive Director of HPRS that I get asked whether a member should go into the DROP, postpone the DROP waiting for that percentage bump up, or to wait on those sometimes-elusive promotions near the end of a career. Well, here is the answer to that question everyone wants to know... "it all depends".

The Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) has been around nationally for quite some time. As a matter of fact, it was first introduced back in the 1980's in the public sector. Fast forward many years to June 2006 when the OSHP DROP was officially created, under Senate Bill 206, as an alternative investment/retirement option for those who wish to continue working with the OSHP.

There are several options you need to consider when making the decision to enter DROP or continue working to raise your final average salary. Your considerations should include factors such as timing of a large raise, a big promotion, or how long you plan to continue working with the organization. These factors, as well as others, all play a key role when deciding which step to take. It is under very rare circumstances when postponing the entry into the DROP would be the best decision for the member but if you feel your circumstances are different or just want to have some numbers run, please feel free to contact the system to talk to a benefits specialist.

Two questions you must ask yourself, do you want a higher, more consistent monthly income or is a lump sum check more appealing, either to invest or use as a down payment when you do finally walk away? Everyone's situation is different, and I encourage those contemplating options to discuss their current financial situation with a financial advisor.

Best Regards,

Carl Roark, Ph.D.
HPRS Executive Director



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IS THERE MONEY HIDING IN YOUR VEHICLE?

Remember, if you're in the market for a new or used vehicle, or are just looking to save money on your current loan, your State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union is here to help.

With many auto dealerships' loans carrying marked-up interest rates, a loan through your credit union is a no brainer!

ALONG WITH OUR ALREADY LOW RATES, YOU CAN ALSO EARN AN EXTRA .25% DISCOUNT ON YOUR RATE when you sign up for Automatic Loan Payments on any NEW LOANS.



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All with FAST and EASY loan approval and a knowledgeable staff that will help make the entire process simple and hassle-free.

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Stop by the office at: 1900 Polaris Parkway, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43240

Loans are subject to credit worthiness and approval. Membership eligibility is required. Some restrictions apply. Terms and conditions based on amount financed. For full details please contact The State Highway Patrol Federal Credit Union Loan Department at 800-282-3006, option 5.

RETIREES

Where are they now?

By Captain Rob Jackson, Retired

Retiree: Sidney "Sid" Jones
Career: March 1966 (70th Class) to January 6, 1997
Assignments: Gallipolis and Lancaster posts

Sid Jones stayed involved in public safety for an additional 20 years after retirement. Working for two companies that contracted with the court systems, Sid placed vehicle immobilization devices (clubs) on vehicles and electronic alcohol monitors and GPS devices on defendants when ordered by the local judges. During this time, Sid also enjoyed having a large garden on his mini-farm and woodworking throughout each year.

Sid enjoys vacationing annually in Hilton Head and has recently sold his mini-farm and moved to a condo. Sid and his wife, Gladys, are the proud parents of three daughters and proud grandparents of six grandchildren, five girls and one boy. As for life after retirement, he misses his Patrol friends and also misses meeting new people every day when working the road. Sid was the anchor of the Saturday morning Lancaster Post retiree coffee breaks, but with recent retiree passings and some health issues, cannot attend as regularly as he did before.

Sid related two memorable moments from his career. The first was when he was assigned to the Gallipolis Post. Sid, Gladys and his 6-month-old daughter, Suzan, came across the Silver Bridge over the Ohio River, which happened to be about four hours before the eventual tragic collapse of the bridge where 43 lives were lost in the incident. The second was when Sid was assigned to the Lancaster Post. Troopers Dennis Lee, Alice Meadows and Sid apprehended a bank robber on US-22 in Lancaster. Their apprehension was captured and was the front page news in the local newspaper.





MARLA K. GASKILL
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

Lieutenant Colonel Marla K. Gaskill, Office of the Superintendent, retired on September 2, 2022, after 33 years with the Patrol. She began her Patrol career in May 1989 as a cadet dispatcher assigned to the New Philadelphia Post. She began

her training as a member of the 119th Academy Class in January 1990. She earned her commission in June of that year and was assigned to the Wooster Post. As a trooper, she also served as a pilot in the Aviation Unit. In 1997, she was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Norwalk Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, she also served at the Delaware Post and in the Administrative Investigations Unit. In 2001, she was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and transferred to the Marysville Post to serve as post commander. In 2006, she was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Office of Human Resources. As a staff lieutenant, she also served in the Office of Personnel, Office of Field Operations and Capitol Operations. In 2011, she was promoted to the rank of captain and transferred to the Fiscal Services Section. In 2016, she was promoted to major and transferred to the Office of Planning and Finance. In 2019, she was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and transferred to the Office of the Superintendent.

Lieutenant Colonel Gaskill earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Capital University, a Master of Business Administration degree in applied leadership from Franklin University in 2008 and a Master of Public Administration from Ohio University in 2020. In 2005, she completed a leadership executive training course at the Southern Police Institute. She also attended the Army War College.



JERAD R. SUTTON
WARREN DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

Staff Lieutenant Jerad R. Sutton, Warren District Headquarters, retired on November 1, 2022, after 23 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 1999 as a member of the 134th Academy Class. He earned his commission

in December of that year and was assigned to the Hiram Post. In 2003, he earned the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement. He also earned the Criminal Patrol Award twice.

As a trooper, he also served at the Warren Post. In 2004, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Medina Post to serve as an assistant post commander. As a sergeant, he also served at the Ashtabula Post. In 2010, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and remained at the Ashtabula Post to serve as post commander. As a lieutenant, he also served at the Canfield and Warren posts as well as the Warren District Criminal Patrol Unit. In 2022, he was promoted to the rank of staff lieutenant and transferred to the Warren District Headquarters to serve as an assistant district commander.

Staff Lieutenant Sutton served in the United States Marines from 1994 to 1997. He completed advanced leadership training at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command in 2010.



CHRISTOPHER T. CARPENTER
GRANVILLE POST / DISTRICT 6

Sergeant Christopher T. Carpenter, Granville Post, retired on September 19, 2022, after 20 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 2002 as a member of the 140th Academy Class. He earned his commission in

February of the following year and was assigned to the Mt. Gilead Post. In 2011, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Patrol's Training Academy. In 2013, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred to the Patrol's Training Academy.



MICHAEL L. MCMANIS
JACKSON POST / DISTRICT 9

Sergeant Michael L. McManis, Jackson Post, retired on October 7, 2022, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Hamilton Post. In

2009, he was selected as Jackson Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served in the Wilmington District Criminal Investigations Unit and at the Jackson Post. In 2012, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and remained at the Jackson Post to serve as an assistant post commander.

Sergeant McManis earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts from the University of Rio Grande in 1991.



**WILLIAM R. OGDEN JR.
FINDLAY DISTRICT
COMMERCIAL
ENFORCEMENT UNIT**

Sergeant William R. Ogden Jr., Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on October 5, 2022, after 30 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 1992 as a member

of the 123rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in November of that year and was assigned to the Bucyrus Post. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year twice. As a trooper, he also served in the Bucyrus District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2005, 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 Marion Post.



**CHADWICK CLINGENPEEL
JACKSON DISTRICT
CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIONS UNIT**

Trooper Chadwick Clingenpeel, Jackson District Criminal Investigations Unit, retired on October 21, 2022, after 24 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 was assigned to the Athens Post. In 2011, he was selected as Post Trooper of the Year. As a trooper, he also served at the Gallipolis Post.

Trooper Clingenpeel served in the United States Marines from 1992 to 1996, serving in Operation Desert Storm.



**WESLEY F. ARCHER
ZANESVILLE POST /
DISTRICT 7**

Trooper Wesley F. Archer, Zanesville Post, retired on September 16, 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 Zanesville Post throughout his career. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year in 2010 and 2021.



**PAUL B. COATES
XENIA POST / DISTRICT 5**

Trooper Paul B. Coates, Xenia Post, entered disability retirement on October 23, 2022, after 11 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in September 2011 as a member of the 151st Academy Class. He earned his commission in February of the following year and was

assigned to the Xenia Post throughout his career.

Trooper Coates earned an Associate of Science degree in engineering from Sinclair Community College in 2001.



**ALLEN D. CLARK
SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM**

Trooper Allen D. Clark, Special Response Team, retired on November 10, 2022, after 25 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in October 1997 as a member of the 130th Academy Class. He earned his commission in May of the following year and was assigned to the

Jackson Post. As a trooper, he also served in the Jackson District Criminal Patrol Unit.

Trooper Clark served in the United States Marines from 1990 to 1993.



**ERIC J. DERRINGTON
STEUBENVILLE POST /
DISTRICT 7**

Trooper Eric J. Derrington, Steubenville Post, retired on October 1, 2022, after 23 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in February 1999 as a member of the 133rd Academy Class. He earned his commission in July of that year

and was assigned to Cambridge Post. In 2015, he earned the Robert M. Chiamonte Humanitarian Award. As a trooper, he also served at the Lisbon Post.

Trooper Derrington served in the United States Marines from 1994 to 1998.



**TYTUS A. GILLILAND
WILMINGTON POST /
DISTRICT 8**

Trooper Tytus A. Gilliland, Wilmington Post, entered disability retirement on October 23, 2022, after 18 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in May 2004 as a member of the 142nd Academy Class. He earned his commission

in November of that year and was assigned to the Wilmington Post. In 2015, he earned the Trooper Recognition Award. As a trooper, he also served at the Jackson District Headquarters and the Chillicothe Post.

Trooper Gilliland earned a Bachelor of Individualized Studies in engineering from Shawnee State University in 2016.



**JOSEPH R. GLASCOX
ELYRIA POST / DISTRICT 4**

Trooper Joseph R. Glascox, Elyria Post, retired on October 7, 2022, after 23 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 1999 as a member of the 134th Academy Class. He earned his commission in December of that year and was assigned to the Marysville Post.

In 2018, he earned the Certificate of Recognition for life-saving action. He was selected as Post Trooper of the Year twice. He also earned the Criminal Patrol Award 11 times and the Ace Award for excellence in auto larceny enforcement twice. As a trooper, he also served at the Delaware and Norwalk posts.

Trooper Glascox served in the United States Navy from 1987 to 1999, serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Somalia.



**LADONNA M. KLOCINSKI
SWANTON POST /
DISTRICT 1**

Trooper LaDonna M. Klocinski, Swanton Post, retired on October 27, 2022, after 25 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in October 1997 as a member of the 130th Academy Class. She earned her commission in May of the

following year and was assigned to the Toledo Post. In 2011, she transferred to the Swanton Post. In 2013, she was selected as Post Trooper of the Year.

Trooper Klocinski served in the United States Air Force from 1996 to 2002.



**TIMOTHY D. KALBFELL
WOOSTER POST /
DISTRICT 3**

Dispatcher Timothy D. Kalbfell, Wooster Post, retired on November 4, 2022, after 32 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in July 1998 as a dispatcher assigned to the former Massillon Post. He was selected as Post Dispatcher of the

Year three times. As a dispatcher, he also served at the New Philadelphia Post and the Wooster Dispatch Center.



**GARY L. ELEY
FINDLAY DISTRICT
COMMERCIAL
ENFORCEMENT UNIT**

Motor Carrier Enforcement Inspector Gary L. Eley, Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit, retired on October 3, 2022, after 36 years with the Patrol. He joined the Patrol in June 1985 as

a motor vehicle inspector assigned to the Lima Post. As a motor vehicle inspector, he also served at the Van Wert Post as well as the Piqua and Findlay Districts Commercial Enforcement Units. Throughout his career, he also served as a driver license examiner 1 assigned to the Findlay District Driver Exam Station and a stationary load limit inspector assigned to the Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit. In 2019, he was promoted to a motor carrier enforcement inspector and remained at the Findlay District Commercial Enforcement Unit.



**CHARLENE M. GRADY
WARREN DISTRICT
HEADQUARTERS**

Administrative Professional 1 Charlene M. Grady, Warren District Headquarters, retired on October 31, 2022, after 35 years with the Patrol. She joined the Patrol in November 1987 as an administrative staff assigned to

the Warren District Headquarters. While assigned to the Warren District Headquarters, she was promoted to an office assistant in 1990 and an administrative professional 1 in 1995. She earned the District Employee Recognition Award twice.



PATRICIA L. COPPEDGE
CENTRAL RECORDS

Customer Service Assistant 2
Patricia L. Coppedge, Central
Records, retired on November 30,
2022, after 31 years of state service.
She began her state career in
October 1991 with the Ohio Bureau
of Motor Vehicles as a customer
service assistant 2 in the Title

Section. In 2010, she transferred to the Patrol's Central
Records Unit.



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

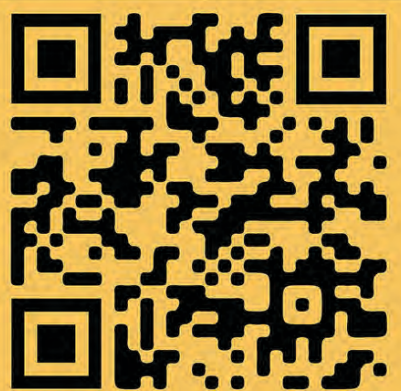
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- Become a resident of Ohio prior to graduation



For more information visit
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#JoinOSHP

OSHP AUXILIARY CELEBRATES 80TH ANNIVERSARY, HONORS RETIREES WITH COMBINED 117 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Auxiliary celebrated the program's 80th anniversary with a ceremony on October 15 at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy. Current and retired Patrol and Auxiliary members attended the event.

The Auxiliary is an all-volunteer force that provides assistance to Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers in the course of their duties. Formed in 1942 at the beginning of World War II, the Auxiliary was organized by Colonel Lynn Black with the help of the American Legion.

During the ceremony a number of recently retired Auxiliaries were honored, listed below:



Auxiliary Lieutenant Tom Dittoe of the Columbus District, who retired with 15 years of service. Dittoe retired as one of the most decorated Auxiliaries of all time, having received the State Auxiliary of the Year Award, the Duffy Award, and the Auxiliary's highest honor, the Ulmer Award. Dittoe earned the Ulmer Award and a Patrol Certificate of Recognition when he saved the life of a 13-year-old boy in 2012, while on road patrol with a trooper.



Auxiliary Officer Jeremy Gale of the Wilmington District, who retired with 20 years of service. Gale received district and post Auxiliary of the year honors during his career.



Auxiliary Officer Jamie Marquis of the Bucyrus District, who retired with 15 years of service. Marquis received district and post Auxiliary of the year honors during his career.



Auxiliary Officer Christopher Scarberry of the Cambridge District, who retired with 11 years of service. Scarberry earned the Ulmer Award and a Patrol Certificate of Recognition for saving the life of an infant boy in 2013, while he was on road patrol with a trooper.



Auxiliary Officer Glen Shivers of the Wilmington District, with 29 years of service. Shivers received district and post Auxiliary of the year honors during his career.



Auxiliary Major Jim Reneau of the Findlay District, who retired on November 30 with 27 years of service. Reneau was honored a number of times in his career with district and post Auxiliary of the year honors.

Combined, these Auxiliaries donated 117 years of service to the Patrol and the citizens of Ohio. Since the Auxiliary's founding in 1942, the program has continued to evolve, with Auxiliaries currently assisting troopers on road patrol, with special details like the Ohio State Fair and The Ohio State University football games, and responding to emergency callouts. Among the emergencies the Auxiliary has responded to over the years includes disasters such as floods, severe weather, plane crashes, and most recently the COVID-19 pandemic.

To learn more about the Auxiliary and how to become a volunteer, go to www.oshpauxiliary.org.



Vanessa Santiago

Just wanted to thank Officer Dan Jones for helping my mother and family on the highway.



Ken Strite

Noticed a Trooper in Beavercreek this morning on US35 helping a disabled person change the left front tire on the car. Just wanted to let him know that people notice and appreciate the good work you all do!



Corene Sindorf Johnson

Just a shout out to the patrolman that assisted my husband last Friday night on 75N South of Toledo when his 75 Shovelhead broke down! You all rock!!!!



William Given

I ran out of gas at the 5 mile marker on I 77 south today and was a pretty forlorn about it. I called 911 because I didn't know what repair center could help me etc. Ohio safety patrol officer Adam, I believe it was responded and took me to a gas station where I bought two gas cans and 2 gallons of gas and shine the light for me while I filled up the tank and made sure I was able to fire the engine up. My wife and I thank him very much. [Show Less](#)

PATROL CELEBRATES 89TH BIRTHDAY



On November 15, the Patrol celebrated 89 years of service with a purpose for the citizens of Ohio. It all started in 1933 when 60 patrolmen rode from the grounds of Camp Perry on motorcycles to outposts across Ohio. While the mission has evolved over time, the value to the public the Patrol serves is more important than ever.

The commanding officer at each facility / office read a birthday message from Colonel Charles A. Jones to personnel in recognition of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s 89th birthday – November 15, 2022.

It all started 89 years ago today, when patrolmen rode from the grounds of Camp Perry on motorcycles to outposts across Ohio.

Going all the way back to 1933 and our inception, family has been a central pillar to the success of our Division.

Regardless of when you came on the Highway Patrol, through the decades the Patrol family has always been important, strong and resilient.

Our family is troopers, police officers, vehicle inspectors, Ohio Investigative Unit agents, dispatchers, auxiliary units, professional staff and retirees.

And so today, as we gather at our facilities around Ohio to commemorate our 89th birthday, remember that we are a family.

Irrespective of your position and role in the Division, or whether you are a current employee or retiree, just like the 60 patrolmen that rode out on their motorcycles on November 15, 1933, each one of you embodies what Service with a Purpose looks like across Ohio.

In celebrating the 89th birthday of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, I encourage each of you to reflect on the fact that while our mission has evolved over time, our value to the public we serve is more important than ever.

CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

According to US News and World report, those suffering from depression reached 9 percent from 2015-2020. During the pandemic the number climbed to 17 percent, almost doubling. Mental health professionals were calling depression a public health crisis in 2020. They have begun describing our current situation as a public health disaster. Those suffering from anxiety and depression are all around us.

This trend affects your interactions with the motoring public, your friends, probably a family member, and even some of your interaction with fellow Troopers. Our natural tendency is to isolate when we begin to feel a little blue. We figure that everyone else has their own troubles to deal with and we don't want to add to their burdens. While this thought process makes sense, it does not help with our outlook on life. If we are not careful, we can slip into thinking and feeling like we are all alone. I am deeply concerned for those who feel like they must go through life alone.

I was recently re-reading some of the works of Brother Lawrence. For those who are not familiar, Brother Lawrence was a 17th Century Carmelite lay brother. He was devoted to his faith and yet suffered from debilitating depression for 10 years before finding peace through what he called "practicing the presence of God". He experienced the most profound joy in prayer, not while engaging in formal daily devotions, but while doing his chores as a cook. "The time of business does not with me differ from the time of prayer," said Brother Lawrence.

He was able to find rich meaning and purpose even in the most mundane of tasks.

As I reflected on Brother Lawrence, I began to think about me and I began to think about you.

I can see a few transferable truths. The first transferable truth for those living in a world filled with emotional upheaval is: Your work is sacred.

I firmly believe that law enforcement is not a career, but rather a calling. I believe Almighty God calls men and women to serve the public in law enforcement. You have heard that call and given the best years of your life to this noble calling. If this is His calling upon your life, then there is no higher and more noble thing you could possibly do. I believe your answering this call makes Him very pleased. This understanding allows even the most mundane of tasks to bring a sense of purpose and significance. Your hard work is making the world a better place. God is with you.

The Bible tells us in Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

There are times in every individual's life, when they are frightened and distressed about the future. They may feel unsure about whether or not they are capable of handling what is to come or if this is the correct path to pursue. However, we can gain encouragement from this: we can know that the Lord will always be with us in whatever circumstance that He places us in, or pathway that He calls us to pursue. Therefore, we can have peace and move forward with strength and courage, knowing that God is on our side. It is this conviction that allows us to practice the presence of God. Even at our worst, God is still just as good.

If you have ever known someone who struggled with depression for 10 minutes, you know just how dark things can seem. Brother Lawrence struggled with depression for 10 years. I cannot begin to imagine some of the dark moments he faced in those years. In the midst of it, he discovered the goodness of God. God wasn't mad. God wasn't far away. God wasn't unable to sympathize. God was near and He was good.

I thank God for each and every one of you and for the tremendous good you are accomplishing in the world. I pray that in the midst of it all you experience His presence and His goodness in all circumstances.

Blessings!

Reverend Phil Hurlbert



State Chaplain



FLYING WHEEL

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

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