

PATROL NEWS

July-August 2020



"Over 85 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"



See cover page 3.

From the Staff ...

Lt. Col. Malik A. Henderson
Asst. Superintendent



Much has happened since the last issue. Through it all, we are mindful of the pandemic brought to us by the coronavirus. Social distancing and face coverings remain part of our lives. Some employees are still rotating between the office and teleworking. I commend our employees for working steadily to serve the public through COVID-19.

Driver examination stations have reopened and experienced a very busy May and June administering written and skills tests. They anticipate the remainder of summer to continue at a similar pace. Our motor vehicle inspectors completed school bus inspections in May and June, and have caught up on salvage inspections. They are working hard to catch up on inspector mechanic training and testing.

Throughout the pandemic, troopers continued to enforce traffic law, investigate crimes, and serve the public. One way we were called upon to serve was in areas of civil unrest. We have been and will remain vigilant when protecting the public's right to be heard in protest while keeping safety a priority.

Regardless of the challenges we face, we will continue to serve and protect the people of Missouri. I encourage every Patrol employee to embrace the Patrol's Core Values, and for all their words and actions, on and off duty, to come from that perspective. Remember that whether you are on or off duty, civilian or member, you are the face of the Patrol. People know the name of your employer and expect more from you.

I appreciate the commitment each of you display in your career with the Patrol. I am certain we will meet all challenges with the integrity, responsibility, respect, professionalism, compassion, resourcefulness, character, and commitment for which we are known. We have provided quality services and protection for almost 90 years and will continue doing so.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. A. Henderson". The signature is stylized and cursive.

The official publication of the
Missouri State Highway Patrol

Celebrating Over 50 Years Of News

PATROL NEWS

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State of Missouri

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Department of Public Safety

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Missouri State Highway Patrol

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PATROL NEWS

July-August 2020

“Over 85 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”

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Aircraft Division Transports COVID-19 Medication



The Aircraft Division, at the request of the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency, transported shipments of Remdesivir, an experimental drug used to treat hospitalized COVID-19 patients. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services worked with other state agencies, including SEMA and the Missouri State Highway Patrol, to deliver the drug to several Missouri hospitals. Shipments of the drug were flown from Jefferson City to Cape Girardeau, Hannibal, Houston, Sikeston, and West Plains. Both helicopter and fixed wing aircraft were used. These deliveries were another example of how several public safety agencies worked closely together to serve the citizens of Missouri. In this photo, Cpl. Jon Cluver, Q/AD, prepares to deliver medication.

Cover

Tpr. Chris Harlan (F) jumps off the platform during Swift Water Rescue Training at Pomme de Terre Lake. (See story on page 16.)

DPS Honors LeCuru As Non-Sworn Employee Of The Month

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

Property Inventory Controller Eric S. LeCuru (Q/BPD) accepted the Department of Public Safety April 2020 Non-Sworn Employee of the Month award for his exceptional work, organizational skills, and expertise related to fixed assets. The presentation took place during a “socially distanced” ceremony on May 20, 2020. A small group of Eric’s co-workers and staff congratulated him with a certificate, DPS director’s coin, and superintendent’s coin.

“Thank you, Eric,” said Capt. Mike W. Watson (Q/BPD). “I think of all you’ve done over your career. But, what really stands out to me is that in addition to your willingness to do anything to help in Supply for the Patrol, foremost in your life is family.” Capt. Watson told those present that Eric also volunteers for his church and community. “When I think about him, I think of his faith, his volunteering, and his family. We are extremely proud as a division and as an agency that Eric received this award.”

Both Col. Eric T. Olson and DPS Director Sandra K. Karsten spoke during the presentation.

“It is a pleasure to be here today and to meet your wife,” said Col. Eric T. Olson. “Eric, you are an excellent example of our accountability. I appreciate your efforts. It is very important to know where our property is and our expenses.” The colonel then told Eric he had a superintendent’s coin for him and set it on the table nearby. “Normally, I would shake your hand, but today with social distancing, I cannot. I do thank you very much for your commitment over the last 37 years.”

Eric oversees the tracking of over 26,000 fixed assets in the Highway Patrol’s inventory with a value of nearly \$190 million. Annually, he coordinates on-site visits to perform physical inventory audits at all Patrol troops and its



DPS Director Sandra Karsten (left) and Col. Eric Olson (right) presented Prop. Inv. Controller Eric LeCuru (Q/BPD) with the April DPS Non-Sworn Employee of the Month award while respecting social distancing.

General Headquarters. He prepares the fixed asset reconciliation statement ensuring the state ledger and Patrol systems are in alignment. He inventories and verifies possession of all federal assets annually.

In addition, Eric has been coordinating daily meetings with personnel assigned to the Patrol’s Criminal Justice Information Services Division preparing for an effective and efficient transition to a new property inventory system. These meetings include personnel from various divisions and an outside vendor and are a large time

commitment. Eric also represents the Patrol and lends his expertise in regular meetings regarding a proposed statewide fixed asset component to be housed within the existing SAM II system.

DPS Director Sandra K. Karsten also congratulated Eric and placed a DPS coin on the table for him to pick up.

“Thank you all very much for this award,” said Eric. “Makes my wife proud. It’s not deserved, but thank you very much.”

How Others See Us

To the troopers of Missouri,

My family wishes to tell you that we support you. In this time of trial, we are praying that you all remain safe. Your work can be hard and we understand and appreciate that. Take care and see you on the road.

*Harry Sappington
(via email)*

The Hat

By Sgt. Chip Drenon, Troop A

Over the years, I've worn many types of hats. But, the hat that represents me most is the same blue hat I've worn for 30 years.

Several years ago, I was actively involved in archery and I became a member of a popular website forum where discussions mostly revolved around the art of bowhunting. Late one evening, a lady from a different state made a simple plea for help. She was friends with the mother of a little girl who had been hospitalized with terminal cancer. Though facing the certainty of death, she was still a fun-loving and light-spirited child. One day, she asked her mother if she thought people would send postcards from other states. The mother mentioned it to her friend, thus leading to the plea for help on the archery forum.

Immediately, the plea for help generated numerous responses. At that time, the Missouri State Highway Patrol carried stuffed bears in each of the patrol cars for children involved in traumatic events. I couldn't think of anything more traumatic for the little girl and her family, so I expressed an idea and challenge. During the discussion, I challenged the other members to not only send a postcard, but to also send the little girl a stuffed toy from each state.

After presenting the challenge on the forum, I went to my patrol car and retrieved the little stuffed bear. In the back seat next to the bear, was my blue uniform hat. Thinking of the little girl and her struggles, another idea came to mind. I went to my basement and found one of my old uniform hats I had put away. I placed both the stuffed bear and the hat into a box, and because I didn't have a postcard, I wrote a note. It said, "This hat has always given me courage in the most difficult times. I hope it brings you the same. You are loved." Signed, Sgt. Chip Drenon, Missouri State Highway Patrol.

I mailed the package the next day, not expecting to hear anything from the little girl. A few weeks later, I received an envelope in the mail. I noticed it was from the state of California, so I opened it as soon as I walked into my house. The envelope contained a letter and a picture. The letter was written by the little girl's mother and written with emotional gratitude. The picture showed the little girl in her hospital room, surrounded by a roomful of cards and stuffed toys. Not only had she received something from every state in our nation, she had received toys and cards from Germany, Australia, England, Canada, and numerous other countries. But, what shook me most, was the hat she was wearing. Beneath the old blue uniform hat was a small frail child with a beaming smile along with a look of courage for all to witness.

Today, I look at the flat brimmed hat and am reminded of a courageous little girl and the goodness the world can show, even in times of darkness.

God Bless.

August Retirees' Lunch Canceled

Because of the coronavirus, the retirees' luncheon scheduled for August 21, 2020, at the First Baptist Church, in Lee's Summit, MO, was canceled. We hope next year will be better, so we can have the luncheon. We will plan on having it at the same place on August 20, 2021. Hope to see everyone then. Stay safe and take care! If you have any questions, contact retired Sgt. Pat Spire at pvsfire@prodigy.net.

“We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.”

— Martin Luther King Jr.

MSHP: Essential Agency Goals

1. Protect. Effectively and efficiently safeguard life and property.
2. Serve. Provide the full range of police agency services.
3. Sustain. Guarantee continued protection and services by accurate forecasting and timely acquisition of critical resourcing requirements.

—excerpt, Highway Patrol Strategic Plan 2020-2025

Happy 99th Birthday, Major Jones!

By Public info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

The 99th time you do something, it needs to be special. That's what friends of retired Major Francis A. "Bud" Jones thought when his 99th birthday approached. They decided a parade on May 11 was exactly the right type of celebration. The event was led by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Ellisville Police Department, Ballwin Police Department, Wildwood Police Department, St. Louis County Police Department, and the Greater St. Louis Honor Flight, all of whom came into his neighborhood with lights and sirens to mark the occasion.

"When Kelly Wittenauer contacted me about Major Jones' 99th birthday, and her idea to do a drive by parade due to the COVID pandemic, we jumped at the opportunity to be involved in such an awesome celebration," said Lt. Julie Scerine (C). "Not only do we always want to celebrate a retiree's long, healthy retirement, we were also able to honor one of the greatest war heroes in our Patrol family. It was an absolute honor to be a part of Major Jones' birthday parade."

Bud's life of service began after he heard about the bombing of Pearl Harbor, HI, on December 7, 1941, over the radio. The following May, when he turned 21, he took the examination for the Army Air Corps Cadet Program at

Fort Leonard Wood. This put him on a path to becoming a pilot, training in a PT-17 Stearman. He flew a BT-15 made by Voltee, AT-6 Texans, and P-40. When he graduated from flight training, he was a second lieutenant and got his designation as a single engine fighter pilot. The new pilots were assigned to the European Theater. Eventually, he would arrive at a small airfield outside Naples, at the base of Monte Vesuvio. He would fly the P-40 War Hawk and his first combat mission took place in early February 1944.

Bud flew 92 missions in the P-40, including the last mission flown by P-40 War Hawks by U.S. pilots in the European Theater. Those planes were replaced by the P-47s. He flew 25 missions in the P-47. He earned a Distinguished Flying Cross medal for a flight on September 6, 1944, and again on September 8, 1944. Later, Bud returned to the states and became an instructor in combat tactics until he separated from the service in June 1945. In addition to the Distinguished Flying Cross medals, Bud earned four Air Medals, the Presidential Unit Citation with one Cluster, the EAME Medal with six battle stars, the American Campaign



Retired MSHP Major Bud Jones relaxes in his driveway during his 99th birthday parade.

Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, and the U.S. Air Force Reserve Medal during his many years of service. Once out of the military, he went into the local 9698th reserve unit attached to Jefferson City. He was the commanding officer of that unit. He would change his military designation from pilot to air provost marshal, which technically made him a military policeman. He retired from military service at the rank of lieutenant colonel. On January 23, 2012, Governor Jay Nixon presented Bud with a French Legion of Honor medal. The honor came from the French president, in recognition for Bud's distinguished actions in the liberation of France during World War II.

From 1945 to 1951, Bud used his civilian pilot's license and instructor's permit. He flew as a civilian instructor, crop duster, and fire patrol for the Missouri Department of Conservation. Meeting Sgt. Bob Boyland, a Patrol pilot, influenced him to apply for the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Bud was a member of the 11th Recruit Class, which trained in the basement of Troop F Headquarters. He graduated at the top of the class.

He was assigned to Troop C, Kirkwood, after training. Sgt. Boyland called Bud and told him he was retiring and that Bud should talk to then-Colonel David Harrison about being the Patrol's pilot, so he did just that. Bud and his

Continued on the next page.



Cpl. Dallas Thompson, Lt. Jamey Diffie, Cpl. Juston Wheatley, and Lt. Julie Scerine, all Troop C, visited with retired Major Bud Jones on the occasion of his 99th birthday.

— Birthday

Continued from page 6.

family moved back to Jefferson City where he flew when needed and patrolled the road otherwise. Bud was in the air during the 1954 prison riot reporting what he saw to officers on the ground.

In 1958, he was promoted to sergeant (corporal was not a rank at that time) becoming the first zone sergeant at Troop F. Bud had a wide variety of experiences as a member of the Patrol. One occurred as he was pursuing two escapees in 1960. Bud spotted the escapees' stolen car driving along Missouri Route V in Cole County. As the gap between his '59 Dodge patrol car and the suspects' closed, a bullet from a .22-caliber automatic slammed through the windshield of the Dodge directly in front of his face. It would be determined later that the bullet split in two, and one piece struck the officer's Sam Browne. Bud reported to Troop F Radio that he had been hit, but was continuing south on Missouri Route FF. He wondered why his arm wasn't becoming weak and felt for blood or any sign of injury, but found nothing. He did not return fire at the suspects during the pursuit for fear of endangering a hostage taken by the escapees. The convicts soon turned onto a side road, stopped their vehicle, and fled on foot. Bloodhounds were used to locate them and they were taken into custody later that evening. The hostage in their vehicle was unharmed. She told reporters, "I was calm because I had complete faith in the Highway Patrol."

Bud was promoted to lieutenant in 1969, and remained at Troop F. He would become the commanding officer of that troop after being promoted to captain in 1973. He transferred to General Headquarters in 1976, and was promoted to major in 1979. Bud retired in May 1981. That same day, he retired from military service at the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Happy 99th birthday, Bud, and thank you for your decades of service to your state and nation!

[Editor's note: Many thanks to Ms. Kelly Wittenauer, who shared her pictures of Bud's birthday parade.]

MSHP 2020 Golf Tournament

Submitted by MOSTA Exec. Dir. Kemp Shoun

The weather was almost perfect for the 49th Annual MSHP Golf Tournament. The tournament took place on June 1, 2020, at the Tanglewood Golf Course in Fulton, MO. The Missouri State Troopers Association again sponsored the tournament. Unfortunately, several players had to drop out the weekend before the tournament due to civil unrest.

The tournament was a closed, two-person scramble in which all players must be active employees or retired from the Patrol. This year, we welcomed six father and son teams in the tournament, which again shows that recruiting starts at home.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

A Flight

- 1st Place — Lt. Collin M. Stosberg (Q/PIED) and Sgt. Eric F. Brown (B)
- 2nd Place — Ret. Lt. Mike W. Cross and Sgt. Jason M. Cross (H)
- 3rd Place — Sgt. Neil R. Atkinson (Q/GSD) and Tpr. Adam M. Kinney (Q/GD)

B Flight

- 1st Place — Ret. Capt. Kyle D. Marquart and SAC Director Mark L. Ritchey (Q/RDD)
- 2nd Place — Lt. Les D. Thurston (Q/HRD) and Ret. Lt. Harold W. Stanfield
- 3rd Place — Ret. Lt. Phil L. Ahern and Lt. Nate C. Ahern (A)

C Flight

- 1st Place — Ret. Sgt. Mike R. Watson and Ret. Sgt. Art Myers
- 2nd Place — Capt. Jason N. Crites (Q/RDD) and Capt. Darewin L. Clardy, (Q/CVED)
- 3rd Place — Ret. Tpr. Morris H. (JR) Poe and Ret. Sgt. Jimmie D. Mays

MOSTA plans to host the tournament again in 2021.



These father-son teams enjoyed time together. Pictured from l to r are: Ret. Capt. Bob Gartner, Chief Tech. Mike Gartner (Q/CommD), Ret. Lt. Col. Rich Coffey, Section Chief Brad Coffey (Q/CommD), Ret. Capt. Harold Elder, Ret. Capt. Lester Elder, Ret. Sgt. Ron Hedrick, Lt. D.J. Hedrick (H), Lt. Nate Ahern (A), Ret. Lt. Phil Ahern, Ret. Lt. Mike Cross, and Sgt. Jason Cross (H).

Congratulations to our flight winners (back row, l to r) Lt. Collin Stosberg (Q/PIED) SAC Director Mark Ritchey, (Q/RDD) Ret. Capt. Kyle Marquart; (front row, l to r) Sgt. Eric Brown (B), Ret. Sgt. Mike Watson, and Ret. Sgt. Art Myers.



Congratulations On Your Retirement!

Linda A. Johnson

CIT Sprv. II
Q/CJISD

*Retired June 1, 2020.
18 years, five months
of dedicated service.*



Cheryl S. Bardwell

Chief DE
Q/DVSD

*Retired June 1, 2020.
21 years, four months
of dedicated service.*



Rhonda C. Bruemmer

Clerk Typist III
Q/DVSD

*Retired June 1, 2020.
13 years, three months
of dedicated service.*



Mike E. Kauth

Sergeant
Troop B

*Retired June 1, 2020.
28 years, five months
of dedicated service.*



Lisa D. Land

DE Sprv.
Troop D

*Retired June 1, 2020.
17 years of dedicated service.*



Eric A. Cooper

Corporal
Troop G

*Retired July 1, 2020.
30 years of dedicated service.*



Herb W. Guilliams

CVO II
Troop A

*Retired July 1, 2020.
17 years, one month
of dedicated service.*



Mike R. Morris

CVO Sprv. I
Troop E

*Retired July 1, 2020.
30 years, six months
of dedicated service.*



Congratulations On Your Retirement!

Teri L. Reed

Comm. Oper. III
Troop B

*Retired July 1, 2020.
17 years of dedicated service.*



Becky S. Taube

Special Asst.
Q/CJISD

Retired July 1, 2020.
32 years, one month
of dedicated service.



Bill C. Welch

CJIS Trainer/Auditor IV
Q/CJISD

Retired July 1, 2020.
18 years, five months
of dedicated service.



Jerry C. West

Captain
Q/TND

Retired July 1, 2020.
33 years, 11 months
of dedicated service.



Bldg. & Grnds. Sprv. Malzner Accepts DPS Award

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

Building and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor W. Curt Malzner (Q/FFD) accepted the Department of Public Safety's Non-Sworn Employee of the Month award for May 2020. The ceremony took place on Tuesday, June 23, 2020, in the second floor conference room at General Headquarters.

Col. Eric T. Olson, superintendent, congratulated Curt and told those present, "The importance of first impressions for a law enforcement agency is tremendous. We don't get a second chance. Thank you for the effort that goes into that. You and I both know you are the first to give credit to your team. You take the initiative and I value that type of leadership greatly."

Director Cathy F. Brown (Q/FFD) provided a synopsis of the nomination, which explained how Curt takes the initiative to ensure GHQ's Waggoner Building is spotless and the grounds are trimmed and neat. He plans carefully during snow events, and ensures driveways and sidewalks are clear and safe on weekends

and after hours. Curt maintains a positive attitude and continuously looks for ways to improve efficiency. He is a leader who encourages team members to be proactive and mentors them to put customer service first. He also encourages team members to learn all aspects of buildings and grounds work, so they have the opportunity to advance.

The director told those present that Curt demonstrates the Patrol's core values daily. "My favorite is integrity; the litmus test being doing what's right when no one is looking. That's Curt. He is dependable. I know if there's snow at 4 a.m. I can depend on him, I don't have to send him a text. Thank you for your dedicated



Director Cathy Brown (Q/FFD) Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. Sprv. Curt Malzner (Q/FFD) DPS Deputy Director Tracy McGinnis, and Col. Eric Olson are pictured.

service to the Patrol, DPS, and state."

When asked if he wanted to say anything, Curt looked at Director Brown and quipped, "I didn't know it was an option to have you wake me up when it's time to shovel snow." He then expressed his appreciation for the award. "The only reason I'm in this spot is because I have a lot of good people surrounding me. I appreciate it. Thank you."

Congratulations, Curt!!

Patrol Commissions 109th Recruit Class

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q /PIED

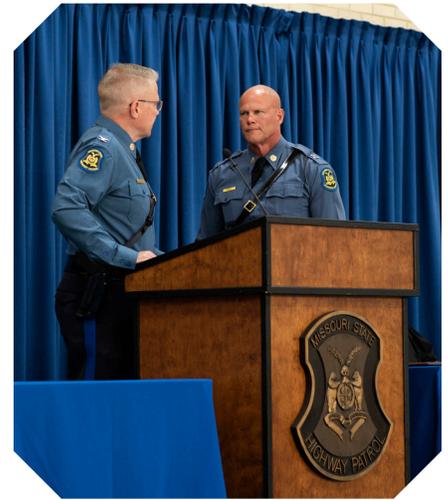
After 25 weeks, the 109th Recruit Class completed their training and took the oath of office as the agency's newest troopers. It was June 26, 2020, and the nation was much different from when the 109th Recruit Class reported to the Academy. A pandemic, social distancing, and protests in reaction to officer-involved shootings in other states marked their last trimester. At a time when policing is under much scrutiny, these 21 new troopers proudly promised to serve and protect.

Tpr. Jacob J. Smith, class chaplain, provided the invocation and benediction during the ceremony. Cpl. Andy A. Armstrong (Q/TND) sang the national anthem. Dean Roger K. McMillan, vice president of college affairs at Mineral Area College, conferred associate degrees to 10 of the new troopers. The Honorable Roy L. Richter, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, administered the Oath of Office to the graduates. However, this class' graduation ceremony was slightly unusual compared to previous graduations. The number of attendees was restricted, media outlets were not present, and class members sat six feet apart. Although salutes were exchanged between the colonel and each graduate, the traditional handshake as the diploma was presented was not. Social

distancing was definitely part of the day.

"I am honored to be a part of your graduation," said DPS Director Sandra Karsten, keynote speaker for the event. She congratulated the class and acknowledged their hard work during training. "The Patrol's Core Values have been embedded into your thoughts, words, and actions. You have worked hard; you have exercised your mind and your body. You have reached a new level of understanding of our laws and the expectations of you as a Missouri state trooper."

The director told the class a trooper's greatest opportunity to establish public trust is in ordinary interactions. She shared an example of a social media post where an African-American motorist posted that a trooper had stopped her for exceeding the speed limit and having the wrong tags on her vehicle. When speaking to the trooper, she admitted to both and said the correct plates were in her back seat. Tpr. Brandon Gunby (A) then asked the driver if she'd mind if he put the new tags on the vehicle. After he did so, her social media post illustrated how moved she was and how the experience helped her know that all cops weren't bad as seen on social media and the news.



Col. Eric Olson recognized Capt. Jerry West (r) during the 109th Recruit Class' graduation. This would be the last recruit class Capt. West guided through training.

Dir. Karsten then told the class this ordinary interaction helped make a difference and build trust. Dir. Karsten ended her comments by challenging members of the 109th Recruit Class to set their minds to embracing excellence in everything they do. "Set out for excellence in those extraordinary events you'll face and in the most ordinary of interactions," she said.

Col. Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the Patrol, also addressed the class. He congratulated the 109th Recruit Class on their accomplishment and extended his appreciation to their families for their support. He told the class his expectations for them are high. He then drew parallels between what Col. Lewis Ellis told the First Recruit Class to being a trooper today.

"In 1931, Col. Ellis told the new troopers, 'Be gentlemen who enforce the law.' Today, of course, we say ladies and gentlemen who enforce the law. I expect you to have embraced the Patrol's Core Values, and for all of your words and actions, on and off duty, to come from that perspective."

The colonel also encouraged the class to build relationships in the communities where they live. "You will

Continued on the next page.



Members of the 109th Recruit Class repeat their Oath of Office.

— Class

Continued from page 10.

be the face of the Patrol in the towns and cities where you reside. Don't miss these opportunities to positively represent yourself and the Patrol."

The new troopers were told to rely on their training as they move to the next phase of their career. "The communication skills and officer safety skills you have learned here, combined with the guidance you will receive from your FTO and zone sergeant, will be critical to ensuring the Patrol continues to provide professional, effective law enforcement services to the citizens of Missouri," said Col. Olson.

Col. Olson then took a moment to recognize Capt. Jerry C. West, director of the Training Division, who would retire July 1, 2020. Going "off script" for a moment, he congratulated Capt. West, who was serving as master of ceremonies, and presented him with a superintendent's coin. The colonel then presented four awards to members of the 109th Recruit Class. Tpr. Margarito Gallo Mejia accepted the Physical Fitness Award. Tpr. Tanner L. Wallace accepted the Firearms Award. Tpr. Tanner L. Wallace accepted the Academics Award. Tpr. Colin E. Osborne accepted the Superintendent's Award.

Congratulations to the 109th Recruit Class!



Tpr. Jake Hirner (H) congratulates his brother, newly commissioned Tpr. Caleb Hirner.

Tpr. Kevin Cox signs his Oath of Office as the Honorable Roy L. Richter, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, serves as witness.



Congratulations, 109th Recruit Class!

The names (hometowns) and first assignments of members of the 109th Recruit Class are listed below:

Troop A

Jonathan R. Boydston* (Kansas City, MO), Zone 2, Platte County
Kevin M. Cox* (Peculiar, MO), Zone 11, Cass County
Margarito Gallo Mejia (Vail, IA), Zone 2, Platte County
Colin E. Osborne (Kirksville, MO), Zone 9, Lafayette County
Tanner L. Wallace (Ozark, MO), Zone 11, Cass County
Thomas J. Whitaker (Joplin, MO), Zone 12, Johnson County

Troop B

Caleb L. Hirner (New London, MO), Zone 3, Chariton/Linn Counties
Kurtis A. Hurley* (Center, MO), Zone 6, Clark/Scotland Counties

Troop C

Mark D. Benson* (Park Hills, MO), Zone 13, Jefferson County
Daniel M. Bochucinski (Plainfield, IL), Zone 19, Lincoln/Pike Counties
Zachary C. Crumley* (Benton, MO), Zone 11, Franklin County
Curtis L. Schilling* (Jackson, MO), Zone 8, St. Charles County
Ryan J. Steele (Arcadia, MO), Zone 10, Franklin County

Troop E

David L. Brawley* (Whitewater, MO), Zone 9, New Madrid/Pemiscot Counties
Joshua J. Schuenemeyer* (Jackson, MO), Zone 7, Scott/Mississippi/New Madrid Counties

Troop G

Kage W. Etherton* (Aurora, MO), Zone 4, North Howell/Shannon Counties
Jacob J. Smith (Winona, MO), Zone 3, North Howell/Shannon Counties

Troop H

Byron D. Hahn (Cameron, MO), Zone 3, Harrison/Gentry Counties
Aaron M. Mapel (St. Joseph, MO), Zone 2, Nodaway/Worth Counties

Troop I

Justin D. Morrison* (Springfield, MO), Zone 8, Laclede County
Colby B. Townsend (St. Louis, MO), Zone 3, Crawford County

* Candidates for an associate degree from Mineral Area College.

From The Inside Out

New Troopers Talk Academy During COVID

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

Every trooper will tell you the Academy experience changes them in some way. The training is steady and intense for 25 long weeks. Many troopers also smile and talk about class experiences: That one recruit who couldn't get it together; the classmate that made them laugh when the instructors weren't looking; the accomplishments along the way.

Every recruit class has its own experience, because class members are unique, instructors change, and training is updated. However, the 109th Recruit Class was unique in other ways: The world outside the Academy affected their training. This recruit class trained during the 2020 pandemic, during a time when spontaneous protests erupted that were directed at law enforcement actions in other states, and when some were vocal in their criticism of police.

My thanks to Troopers Colin E. Osborne (A), Joshua J. Schuenemeyer (E), and Tanner L. Wallace (A), all members of the 109th Recruit Class, for taking part in an email interview. Congratulations to them and their classmates!

Cheryl: *You spent 25 weeks at the Academy. Looking back, which instructor or class taught you the most? Do you have a favorite?*

Tpr. Osborne: I can't say I had a favorite, I liked it all. I really enjoyed the training. I thought DWI and vehicle stops were very interesting, because they are directly related to what troopers do. The defensive tactics training program was good in that they took time to emphasize how important it is to focus on how we are trained and that we apply our training.

Tpr. Schuenemeyer: I don't have a favorite instructor, because they are all great! I don't think you

could get a better staff. I really enjoyed the DWI classes with Tpr. Ryan Hutton and Cpl. Andrew Armstrong. I learned a lot and it made me excited to get on the road and remove some drunks.

Tpr. Wallace: Two of my favorite classes were Tactical Verbal Communication and DWI. In Tactical Verbal Communication, Cpl. Armstrong taught us how to communicate effectively with people and get them to do what we want them to do, even if they may not want to do it. I think this is important, because talking to people is something that I will do every single day of my career. DWI was a class

that taught me a lot, because I am passionate about taking impaired drivers off the roads. As far as instructors go, I liked all the instructors and appreciated the many different things each brought to the classes they taught. If I had to pick a favorite, it would be Tpr. Hutton. As I mentioned before, I look forward to finding impaired drivers and taking them off the roads, and he is a true expert in that subject. It was awesome to be able to learn from his experiences and pick his brain when it comes to DWI enforcement.

Cheryl: *So, tell me your thoughts on your Academy experience related to how the coronavirus affected training.*

Tpr. Osborne: What it showed me was the Patrol, as an agency, recognized that we still needed to train, just like troopers needed to patrol. So, whatever it was we, as an agency, needed to do, we couldn't just stop. It showed the Patrol was flexible and how easily they adapted to work toward completing the Patrol's mission.

Continued on the next page.



The coronavirus even influenced the official class picture of the 109th Recruit Class. The new troopers were spaced apart and wore masks until the photographer was ready to take the photo and immediately thereafter.

— Inside

Continued from page 12.

Tpr. Schuenemeyer: I think the staff did a great job working through it and kept us a priority. We adapted and made sure we got the training we needed. It was unique, to say the least.

Tpr. Wallace: I would say the biggest way COVID affected our Academy class was forcing us to postpone the defensive tactics program, then making it up with 36 hours of defensive tactics over one weekend. All the little changes, such as standing further apart in the meal line and spreading 21 recruits out over two classrooms, were different experiences. But, the 109 overcame them and adjusted to all the obstacles COVID caused.

Cheryl: Describe graduation day for us. What was running through your mind?

Tpr. Osborne: It was a special day. I think during the whole training process there was so much to learn that it seemed graduation was far away. Once graduation was here, the entire class felt accomplished and appreciative of the Training Division staff. They continued to make accommodations throughout training, so we could get to this point. It was also special that our close family could attend, since training was also a long time for them.

Tpr. Schuenemeyer: The whole week of graduation felt like, “Is this really happening?” It was so hard to wrap my head around the fact that Friday I was going to be a trooper. Every time I put that uniform on, I feel very proud of what I have done. Honestly, I was nervous about my speech, so that was going through my head. During the graduation, I kept thinking, “I don’t want to mess up my speech.”

Tpr. Wallace: Prior to graduation, it was definitely a weird/gratifying feeling putting the uniform on and realizing that the past six

months were finally going to pay off. There was a nervous energy around the class as we made sure each other’s uniforms were perfect. Minutes prior to marching into the gym, I think a lot of the guys started realizing that our time as recruits was finally coming to an end, and within the hour we would earn the title of Missouri state trooper. We soaked in the moment. After graduation, it was a surreal feeling signing our oaths with the judge. Overall, it was an awesome day.

Cheryl: DPS Director Sandra Karsten and Col. Eric Olson both addressed the class. Both had good advice and a few reminders for our newest troopers. What resonated? What will you carry with you during your career?

Tpr. Osborne: DPS Director Karsten told us our duty was to protect the public trust established by the troopers before us. That resonated with me. She reinforced that the trust built by previous troopers wasn’t built solely by enforcing the laws of the state of Missouri. It’s built because troopers are involved in their communities. She told us to be a resource and an asset to the community where we live.

Tpr. Schuenemeyer: The DPS director told a story about a young trooper putting on a license plate [for a motorist] in the early hours of the morning. That really sat with me, because it shows how we are servants to the public first.

Tpr. Wallace: Col. Olson talked about how noble a profession this career is, and the reputation the Patrol has for setting the standard when it comes to law enforcement. Every time I put on the uniform, I’m putting on 89 years of tradition and reputation that so many troopers before me have worked to establish. I feel a great responsibility to uphold this tradition and maintain the reputation the Patrol has built.

Cheryl: Just for fun, do you have any classmate interactions (during training) you’re sure to remember in the years to come?

Tpr. Osborne: One of our classmates wore camo shorts and cros down to the laundry room instead of PT gear. One of the instructors saw that and we had to do 12 bear crawl line drills as a result.

Tpr. Schuenemeyer: I thought we came together nicely and it helped motivate us during training. We would always refer to the funny times like hearing Brawley say “roll” or Crumley’s eyes never being open.

Tpr. Wallace: One classmate interaction I will never forget was on the very first night when Steele showed up with a mustache, and he was right beside me doing air chair against the wall. As a group of instructors circled around him screaming about his mustache, all I could think was, “Thank goodness I shaved this morning.”

“The greatest discovery of my generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitudes. As you think, so shall you be.”

— William James, philosopher/psychologist/author

Congratulations On Your Retirement, Bruno!

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED

A Patrol K9's career is marked by dates: The date he joins the agency, the date he meets his handler, training dates, the date he sniffs his first big seizure and each one after that, etc. Although every K9 has its own personality and experiences, their careers are quite similar. That includes the one date none of them can avoid ... retirement.

In this issue, we congratulate K9 Bruno on his retirement effective June 1, 2020. K9 Bruno, who is eight years old, served and protected the citizens of Missouri for six and a half years.

Sgt. Lance D. DeClue, a Troop I marine operations trooper, has served alongside Bruno as his handler and closest coworker. He said Bruno was on the patrol boat with him, although he wasn't fond of water at first, "He grew to love it and all the attention he got from floaters and other officers."

He said Bruno didn't have a retirement party, but is enjoying his retirement.

"So far, Bruno is spending a lot of time hanging out on a creek bank with my daughter," said Sgt. DeClue.

Sgt. DeClue said he does not plan to continue as a K9 handler. "Bruno was my third canine partner and each dog is different. Although I loved being a handler, I think 16 years as a canine handler is enough for me."

"Bruno was great to watch my back and loved attention," Sgt. DeClue continued. "He had quite a few seizures and they are all memorable for me."

Thank you for your service, K9 Bruno!



Sgt. DeClue and K9 Bruno



K9 Bruno and Sgt. Lance DeClue assisted the Cuba, MO, Police Department resulting in the seizure of 43 pounds of cocaine and heroin.



The team of Sgt. Lance DeClue and K9 Bruno responded to a traffic stop in Crawford County to assist Cpl. Clint R. Capps, Troop I, in locating and seizing 10 pounds of marijuana.



The Cuba, MO, Police Department called upon K9 Bruno to help them locate this seizure of over 40 pounds of marijuana.

Looking Back

... in the Patrol News

50 years ago ...

July 1970 — Tpr. William R. Brandt's photo was on the cover. Tpr. Brandt died in the line of duty June 12, 1970. A photo showed Tpr. A.A. Fitzgerald with a variety of weapons removed from the housing units at the Missouri Training Center for men in Moberly, MO, after a recent disturbance at the institution. Nearly 30 Troop B officers remained at the institution until late that night and another detail returned for security purposes early the next morning. About 200 inmates were engaged in the fracas in the yard, but prison officials brought the situation under control without troopers needing to enter the yard area. The sight of troopers in each of the guard towers probably helped quell the disturbance and fights which had broken out. A feature in the issue showed the Patrol's Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement Division in action.

40 years ago ...

August 1980 — An announcement in this issue declared 50th anniversary rings ordered during recent troop meetings would soon be available. Tpr. G.W. Pender (I) related a story about having just completed his field training, gaining some self-confidence, and finally being allowed to work by himself. Looking sharp in his uniform, Tpr. Pender was on duty one

evening when he stopped for supper at a restaurant. Standing in the hostess area waiting to be seated, he noticed several people staring when a rowdy four-year-old boy stood up and pointed, shouting, "Look, Dad, a Cub Scout!"

30 years ago ...

July 1990 — The 62nd Recruit Class graduation was announced. One photo showed four of the class members with their fathers, who were either retired or current Patrol employees. Retired Inspector Fred J. Bernhardt and Tpr. Brent J. Bernhardt; Sgt. Larry E. Murdock (B) and Tpr. Troy Murdock; Sgt. William J. Finnegan (C) and Tpr. Michael T. Finnegan; and Cpl. Robert A. Mallery (C) and Tpr. Andrew A. Mallery. The Research and Development Division reported the first accreditation team and alternates held its first meeting the previous month.

20 years ago ...

August 2000 — Col. Weldon L. Wilhoit wrote about House Bill 1677 recently signed into law by Governor Mel Carnahan. This bill required the Department of Public Safety to establish statewide uniform crime reporting procedures compatible with the national program administered on behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Sheriff's Association by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Members of Troop D provided traffic control for a Civil War reenactment event at Wilson's Creek near Springfield, MO, welcoming about 80,000 spectators.

10 years ago ...

July/August 2010 — This issue highlighted the Ozarks Honor Flight, the 40th anniversary of the Patrol Cadet Academy, Major Crash Investigation Unit, the 15th School Transportation Congress, and Operation Safe Ride. An article by Mr. Shawn R. McCarver, Mr. Russ Lindenlaub, and Mr. Roy G. Jinks told the story of "a rare Smith & Wesson revolver made for the Patrol and almost never seen anywhere else." In 1952 and 1953, the Patrol received a special-order variation of the original .38-caliber Combat Masterpiece. The "Missouri variation" was made with a five-inch tapered barrel, blue finish, black micrometer adjustable rear sight, serrated black Baughman ramp front sight on ramp base, speed hammer with .375-inch spur, standard trigger, and checkered diamond magna stocks. According to the article, the five-inch guns were "beloved by the troopers who carried them. The troopers who carried these revolvers knew they had something that no one else could get, and it gave them a sense of pride."

5 years ago ...

July/August 2015 — Troop E's Honor Guard Team competed in the 2015 National Honor Guard Competition in Washington, D.C. The 100th Recruit Class graduated. New weigh scales opened in Troop H on Interstate 29 in Atchison County, MO, and Interstate 35 in Harrison County, MO. On July 20, 2015, members of the 101st Recruit Class christened the new training tank at the Patrol's Academy. They were trained in the elementary freestyle, breaststroke, side stroke, and elementary backstroke.

Academy Hosts Swift Water I Class

By Lt. Mike A. Petlansky, Q/WPD

On June 15-18, 2020, the Missouri State Highway Patrol hosted Swift Water Rescue Training for our marine troopers and outside agencies. This training encompassed critical knot tying, swift water swimming techniques, boat operations, throw bag deployment, rescue techniques, highline rescues, and on scene safety considerations. Outside agencies sending personnel to the training included the Columbia Fire Department, Jefferson City Fire Department, and the Southern Boone County Fire Department. A total of 13 students received Dive Rescue International certification, nine of which were marine troopers.

The following marine troopers completed the intense training: Trooper Brian N. Marquart (A), Trooper Daniel C. Highley (C), Corporal Ryan W. Clement (D), Trooper Bradley J. Lueckenhoff (D), Trooper Ryan W. Pace (D), Corporal Dennis D. Mathes (F), Trooper Chris W. Harlan (F), Trooper Justin K. Marlin (F), and Corporal Mark L. Freeman (G).

"Swiftwater was awesome," said Tpr. Bradley Lueckenhoff, "possibly the best training I've received. Some parts of this job any trooper could do.



Cpl. Logan Monahan (G) and Tpr. Phil Grubaugh (B) assisted with the Swift Water Rescue Training.



Captain John Enderle and Lieutenant Brian Jones, both Troop D, visited the class to observe the training.



Cpl. Ryan Clement (D) swims to the shore after plunging into the chute at Pomme de Terre Lake.

But, when it comes to swiftwater and us having to go rescue someone in those conditions, those are the big situations. You have to be spot on in your response. I really enjoyed learning the different ways the water moves, and how you can use those different ways to your advantage. If anyone is thinking about taking the class, I would say don't hesitate and dive right in. It was an extremely fun, tiring, and eventful week that was full of amazing lessons."

This course could not have been made possible without Training

Division Instructor/Sergeant David F. Echternacht's planning, tasking, and oversight. Swift Water Instructors Corporal Kurt A. Schmutzler (H), Corporal Rob R. Wilkins (D), Corporal Billy Cole (A), and Trooper Andy B. Ward (D) were on hand to teach, develop, and mentor the new students through the course. Corporal Logan B. Monahan (G), Trooper Rob W. Garrett (D), and Trooper Philip B. Grubaugh (B) led the boat operation course and provided logistical support for the students.

These students displayed a positive and energetic attitude throughout the training and should be commended for their dedication to the enhancement of our swift water rescue capabilities.

Death

Lawrence Williams



Lawrence Williams, 82, of Lebanon, MO, died May 4, 2020, at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, MO. Larry graduated from Urbana, MO, High School in 1955, and served his country faithfully in the United States Navy. On March 8, 1959, he was united in marriage to Billie Joyce Williams, who survives. On September 15, 1968, he joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member of the 37th Recruit Class. He served for 27 years before retiring as a sergeant in 1992. Larry was a Patrol Valor Award recipient in 1991 for an extraordinary act of heroism. A graveside service will be held at a later date. Memorials may be given in Larry's name to Mercy Health Foundation (Hospice) c/o Shadel's Colonel Chapel, P.O. Box 948, Lebanon, MO, 65536. For more information about Larry's life, please visit the Shadel's Colonel Chapel website at <https://www.shadelscolonialchapel.com/obituary/lawrence-frog-williams>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Williams family.

F. Kenneth Fletcher



F. Kenneth Fletcher, 92, of Jefferson City, MO, died Saturday, April 25, 2020, at Capital Region Medical Center surrounded by family. Ken graduated from Little Rock High School in 1945 and Jefferson City Junior College in 1946. He proudly served in the United States Army during the Korean War and was stationed at Tai Jon, Korea, with the 89th Station Hospital during his time of service. Ken was employed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol in 1949, and became a member of the 12th Recruit Class on November 26, 1951. He retired May 31, 1987, after 38 years of service. Ken's last assignment was as a Troop F lieutenant. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Pat Fletcher, six children, 11 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, one sister, and many other friends and family. Ken was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife (Jennie Fletcher), and his great-granddaughter. Due to COVID-19, A private funeral service (with webcast) took place in the Freeman Chapel on Monday, May 4. Memorial contributions are suggested to First Presbyterian Church, 324 Madison Street, Jefferson City MO. 65101. For more information about Ken's life, visit the Freeman Mortuary website at <https://memorials.freemanmortuary.com/ken-fletcher/4196025/obituary.php>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Fletcher family.

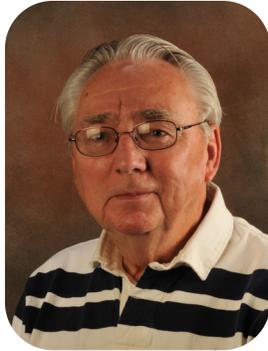
Frederick C. Howard



Frederick C. Howard, 68, died peacefully at his home May 8, 2020, surrounded by family and friends. He graduated from Kennett, MO, Senior High School in 1969. He attended Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO, before returning to his home to marry the love of his life, Juanita Pulliam Howard. Mr. Howard served as a police officer with the Kennett Police Department before becoming a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Mr. Howard was a member of the 49th Recruit Class and served and protected the citizens of Missouri for 29 years. He retired at the rank of sergeant on July 1, 2008. He was also a United States Army veteran and served in the Missouri National Guard for 27 years. He is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren, a goddaughter, godson, five sisters, five brothers, and many more family and friends. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Juanita, and their eldest daughter. Graveside services occurred at the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Sikeston with full military rites and honors. To learn more about Mr. Howard's life, visit the Driver Funeral Service website at <https://www.driverfuneralservice.com/obituary/frederick-howard>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Howard family.

Death

William J. Finnegan



William J. Finnegan, 81, of St. Louis, MO, died Sunday, May 10, 2020. Bill graduated from St. Mary's High School in St. Louis, in 1956. He earned a degree in urban affairs and community service from St. Louis University in 1995. He served in the United States Navy from 1951 to 1961, with assignments in Florida, Spain, Sicily, and Puerto Rico. He was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member of the 37th Recruit Class on September 15, 1968. He retired at the rank of sergeant after over 27 years

of dedicated service. Ken is survived by his beloved wife, Kay (Nash), daughter, son (retired Sergeant Mike T. Finnegan), four grandchildren, brother, and many more family and friends. He was preceded in death by a daughter and granddaughter. Funeral services took place at Kutis Affton Chapel. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Finnegan family.

Leo E. Gentry



Leo E. Gentry, 76, of Holts Summit, died with his loving wife by his side, Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis,

MO. Leo was a 1961 graduate of Montgomery County R-II High School. He served his country in the United States Army from 1961 to 1964. When he returned to Missouri, he attended Central Missouri State University where he graduated with a degree in law enforcement in 1968. He was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member of the 36th Recruit Class on June 1, 1968. He worked the road in Troop H, then served in the Governor's Security Division. He retired at the rank of corporal on August 31, 1994. His second career was with the Missouri Department of Social Services in welfare fraud. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Linda, sons, daughters, nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, sister, and sister-in-law. He was preceded in death by his parents, son, and brother. A graveside service with full military honors occurred Saturday, June 6, 2020, at Hawthorn Memorial Gardens. A celebration of Leo's life followed at the Memorial Park Pavilion in Jefferson City. Memorials may be made to the Eye Bank or the Holts Summit

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:

Cpl. Kelly M. Hoover (A) - mother
Ret. Lt. Mark D. Harwell (H) - mother
Clerk Typist III Julie I. Knodell (E) - father
MVI I Eric D. Foster (I) - father
Sgt. Lance D. DeClue (I) - grandfather
Tpr. Jeff S. Leathers (I) - father
Qual. Control Clerk II Dana S. Koch (Q/CVED) - mother-in-law
Chief Operator Rocky L. Ponder (Q/CommD) - father-in-law
Ret. DE Sprv. Willis L. Lewis - father
DE Sprv. Tamara A. Richardson (C) - mother

Sgt. Larry R. Clark (E) - father
CDL Exam. Marilyn M. Clark (E) - father-in-law
Capt. Chris S. Jolly (Q/CJISD) - father
Clerk Typist III Brittany N. Walters (Q/DDCC) - father
Ret. Clerical Services Sprv. Lily M. LeBeau - mother
Clerk Typist III Jamie L. Terschluse (C) - father-in-law
Tpr. Ty B. Smith (B) - mother
Tpr. Michael T. Soriano (Q/GD) - great-grandmother
Tech. III Krystal L. Conn (Q/CJISD) - grandmother

Ret. Cpl. John A. Leonardo - wife
Ret. Sgt. Brad D. Moore - father
DE II Tracy R. Connell (H) - grandmother
Cpl. Dale R. Reuter (H) - father-in-law
Sgt. Bruce A. Becker (Q/GD) - father-in-law
Sgt. Aaron M. Harrison (Q/CJISD) - father-in-law
Sgt. Troy Linneman (Q/DDCC) - mother-in-law
Tpr. Kalen Linneman (F) - grandmother
Sgt. Brad D. Holman (Q/AD) - wife's grandmother
Ret. Capt. Robert E. Searcy - wife

Death

– Gentry

Continued from page 18.

Lions Club. For more information about Leo's life, visit the Millard Family Chapels website at <https://www.millardfamilychapels.com/obituaries/Leo-Gentry/#!/FamilyTreeMap>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Gentry family.

John H. Lewis



John H. Lewis, 81, died Thursday, May 14, 2020, in Campbell, MO. John had served in the United States Army and was a retired motor vehicle inspector for the Missouri State Highway Patrol. His wife Mary (Guess) survives of the home in Malden, MO. John is also survived by a daughter, son, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, two sisters, and a host of friends and family. Funeral services occurred Monday, May 17, 2020, at the Landess Funeral Chapel. Interment took place in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield, Missouri. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the charity of choice. For more information, please visit the Landess Funeral Chapel website at https://www.landessfuneralhome.com/index.cfm/obituary/6989229?browse_on=desktop. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Lewis family.

Louis W. Crooks



Louis W. "Bill" Crooks, 72, of Springfield died Monday, May 18, 2020, in his home. He grew up in Sparta, MO, and graduated from Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, MO (now Missouri State University). Bill joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member of the 42nd Recruit Class on November 1, 1973. He retired as a corporal on August 1, 2001, after 28 years of dedicated service. Bill is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jane, of the home; three children, seven grandchildren, and a brother. A celebration of life would occur at Table Rock Lake this summer. To learn more about Bill's life visit the Gorman Scharpf Funeral Home Inc. website at <https://www.gorman-scharpf.com/obituary/louis-william-bill-crooks>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Crooks family.

Ottillie L. Konold



Ottillie L. Konold, 84, died Monday, May 25, 2020. Mrs. Konold was employed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a driver examiner assigned to Troop C from May 31, 1979, until she retired on April 30, 1998. Her husband, Eugene L. Konold, preceded her in death (March 2020). She is survived by two sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren, and other family members. Kutis Affton Funeral Home handled a funeral mass on June 1, 2020, at Seven Holy Founders Church observing COVID-10 courtesies (masks, social distancing). In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to Seven Holy Founders St. Vincent de Paul Society, any food pantry, or College of the Ozarks. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Konold family.

~ Thank You ~

Thanks to all for their prayers, condolences, sympathy cards, memorials, and emotional support regarding the recent loss of my mother, Marcie. Your care and concern was greatly appreciated during this difficult time and was a source of peace and comfort. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

Sgt. Bruce L. Reinkemeyer (F) and family

I would like to thank the Patrol family for their kind words and thoughts for the passing of my mom, Velda Mansfield. The cards, flowers, and presence of the Patrol were amazing. Compassion is one of our core values, and it was greatly expressed to my family and myself during this difficult time. You don't have to be blood to be family, and it shows within the Patrol.

*Thank you so much.
DE Sprv. Tamara A. Richardson (C)*



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You Did It!



The public voted and the results are in! Competition was fierce between the states as they competed in the American Association of State Troopers' Best Looking Cruiser Contest. Public support placed Missouri 11th, so the above picture will appear on the November page of AAST's 2021 calendar. Many thanks to everyone who voted for the agency!