

# Troop D

On November 24, 1931, troopers reported to their assignments around the state after graduating from the 1st Recruit Class the day before. There were a total of nine troopers assigned to Troop D Headquarters, which was run out of the Highway Department district building in Joplin. The original members were: Captain Lewis E. Eslick, Sergeant Harve M. Sayers, and Troopers Victor O. Dosing, Otto L. Viets, Harvey L. George, George B. Kahler, Charles P. Newman, John T. Soraghan, and Walter E. Grammer. Four members were assigned to headquarters (Jasper County), one in Vernon County, one in Hickory County, two in Greene County, and one in Stone County.

The original members of the troop had their work cut out for them. Never before had there been an agency tasked with patrolling the entire state with virtually no jurisdictional boundaries. The agency was supported by many and loathed by others. Troop D was responsible for 22 counties--Bates, Vernon, Barton, Jasper, Newton, McDonald, Barry, Lawrence, Dade, Cedar, St. Clair, Henry, Benton, Hickory, Polk, Greene, Christian, Stone, Taney, Dallas, and Laclede. With the lack of radio communications in patrol cars, contact points had to be established so the officers could receive their calls. In the first two weeks, 40 locations were found at businesses ranging from restaurants to gas stations. Other contact points were always being sought. Troopers had assigned routes and would stop at these predetermined points to receive phone messages from troop headquarters.

On April 13, 1932, Troopers Kahler and Grammer were involved in the Patrol's first shootout with the Bonnie and Clyde gang. This occurred after the Neosho Milling Company was robbed and the proprietor, Harry Bacon, and his wife were held captive until the safe was rifled open. The description of the robbers fit the occupants of a house located on 34th Street and Oak Ridge Drive in the Newton County portion of Joplin. It was also reported several vehicles, all with plates from different states, had been seen there. Troopers Kahler and Grammer went to Neosho and got a search warrant from the prosecutor. They, along with the town constable, Wes Harryman, returned to Joplin. Harryman would serve the warrant, due to the law of the time. It was unknown at the time who occupied the stone house.

The gang opened up with rifles and shotguns. Constable Harryman was killed instantly. Joplin Police Detective Harry McGinnis was shot through a crack in the door as he attempted to shoot through a window with his revolver. He died later that night. Tpr. Kahler took aim at Clyde and thought he had killed him. He later learned he had only shot his necktie off. Tpr. Kahler was then hit in the face from several stone fragments after bullets from the BAR (Browning automatic rifle) fired by W.D. Jones struck the side of the house near his location. Jones, in turn, thought he had killed Tpr. Kahler and started looking for Tpr. Grammer. In a 1980 interview, retired Lieutenant George Kahler explained:

*" There was a side window in the apartment. Just as I looked up to check it, W.D. Jones swung a Browning machine rifle out of the garage door and opened up. With the initial burst, I felt sharp pains in my face and neck. I thought, 'My God, half my head is*

*gone.' But the shells had hit the house, and I'd been struck by stone fragments blown free by the slugs.*

*I knew I had no chance against that kind of firepower with my little .38 pistol, so I ran around the house. He continued to fire, and how he missed, I'll never know. As I rounded the corner I tripped over a poultry wire that bordered a flowerbed and fell. As I rolled around the corner of the house, I saw Jones turn around.*

*"Where did the other son of a bitch go?" he said, meaning Grammer. Jones thought he'd killed me.*

*From about 25 feet away, I took careful aim and fired. The slug hit him just beneath the right shoulder blade. He fell back inside the garage.*

*This was the last cartridge in my revolver, so I ducked back down and began reloading. Suddenly, I heard someone coming around the opposite side of the house. Again I thought I'd had it, but it was only Walt Grammer."*

At this point, Tpr. Kahler took careful aim and shot Jones from 25 feet away, striking him under the right shoulder blade. The Barrows threw Jones inside the vehicle. Bonnie Parker and Blanche Barrow joined the men in the car. The Joplin Police car was blocking their exit from the garage. Buck exited and released the parking brake, allowing the car to roll down the hill out of their way. Tpr. Kahler and Joplin Police Detective Tom DeGraff, shot at the fleeing vehicle, but to no avail. This gun battle lasted approximately one minute. The gang had escaped, but not before they left behind several photos, a poem written by Bonnie entitled "Suicide Sal", and the rifle, which is on display at the Patrol's Safety Education Center. A year later, Tpr. Kahler would again cross paths with W.D. Jones.

*"W.D. Jones left the gang in August of 1933, and was captured on his way back to Dallas. I later interviewed him in the penitentiary at Huntsville. By that time, Buck Barrow was dead from wounds suffered in another gun battle near Platte City, Missouri, and his wife, Blanche, had been caught in Iowa," says retired Lt. Kahler in the same 1980 interview.*

*"Jones showed me the scar left from my bullet. The place it exited his chest left a hole large enough to put your thumb into. The slug had passed completely through him but missed his vital organs. He said they'd stopped at a country store after fleeing Joplin and bought a little bottle of rubbing alcohol. Bonnie Parker pried open the wound with knitting needles and filled it with the alcohol. That was the only treatment he'd had!"*

Changes occurring with personnel during the first few years consisted of Troopers Chester R. Oliver and Harry H. Wells being assigned to Troop D in 1932, and the resignation of Trooper Soraghan in 1933. Other notable events include Troop D Headquarters moving from Joplin to the Highway Department's district building on North Weller in Springfield in May 1933, where it remained until 1938. In September 1935, Laclede County was transferred from Troop D to the newly formed Troop F.

In 1935, members were: Captain Lewis B. Howard; First Sergeant Sayers; Sergeants Viets and Newman; and Troopers Burnum, Kahler, George, Oliver, Graham, Wright, Grammer, Eidson, Dosing, Brooks, and McClure.

Retired Lieutenant Eugene B. Burnum reflected on his early years on the Patrol as a trooper during a conversation in February 2004. He stated contact points were the

main means of communication when he came on. He remembered any call that was only 30 minutes old was considered to be a "HOT" call. He was paired up with Victor Dosing for two years before he opened the Clinton station with Ralph N. Eidson.

In 1936, the Federal Radio Commission (now known as the Federal Communications Commission) approved the Patrol's installation of a radio-teletype transmitter at General Headquarters. Communications with this new system were still inadequate for the members of Troop D. Lack of range and electrical static caused from within the Capitol made it necessary for Springfield to receive messages from agencies not manned by the Patrol.

In 1937, Captain Eslick of Troop F (formerly the Troop D captain) was credited for designing the first Patrol shoulder patch. It was sewn onto the left sleeve of the service blouse. Today, the patch is of the same design.

*"On November 10, 1939, I transferred to Troop D," recalled retired Sergeant Roy F. "Pappy" Dix in a 1980 interview. "I drove to the troop headquarters in Springfield to pick up Trooper H.P. Bruner, who had just joined the Patrol. We were to be stationed in Neosho, the first troopers to ever live there. The troop commander, Captain Reed, told me, 'Now, Dix, you're going to find that half the cars in McDonald County are not licensed, but there's nothing you can do about it. We just can't get any prosecution on this charge.'*

*"Nothing" is a broad assumption. This problem was a challenge to me and I resolved to meet it. The first day on the road we arrested a man for having no license plates. Captain Reed looked at the ticket and smiled. 'It won't do you any good,' he repeated. He was right; the fellow was gone from the courthouse before we were.*

*But, you know, we did find a way to force those people to buy license plates. I guess I can tell it now after 40 years. Bruner and I reasoned that if a car had no license plate, the driver had no right to drive it. McDonald County is very hilly. When we'd stop somebody, we'd always make sure it was on an upgrade. We'd make him hoof it home and leave the car. Emergency brakes weren't too good in those days and when the driver returned to get the car, he'd usually find it had rolled into the ditch and he'd have to find somebody to pull it out.*

*Several months passed and Captain Reed came down to ride and talk with me on my shift. We drove McDonald County highways a whole day and didn't see one car without a license plate. 'OK,' he said, 'how'd you do it?'*

*'Captain, it's a long story and I'd rather not relate it,' I said. He never mentioned it again."*

On July 28, 1940, at 8 p.m., the Safety Squadron was at the intersection of Highways 47 and 71 north of Joplin when a car occupied by two men and a woman went through the intersection without stopping. Trooper Clarence Potts followed on his motorcycle and was fired at with a shotgun. After the car turned onto a gravel road, Tpr. Potts could follow no further because of heavy dust. A short time later, the car was found abandoned in a cornfield after it had entered a dead-end road. The fugitives decided to take to the brush. It was determined the two men had escaped from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary. A manhunt ensued consisting of 50 peace officers. At midnight, Troopers Walt Grammer, Paul Hardy, and Potts were halted two miles west of Carl Junction by a barricade of logs placed across Highway 16 by the subjects. Tpr.

Grammer went to the rear of his car, saw the flash of a gun, and heard three shots. He returned fire. Several pellets from the third shotgun blast struck him. After being taken to a doctor's office and having nine pellets removed from his leg, Tpr. Grammer returned to the search party. The fugitives were later caught at three nearby locations.

On December 7, 1941, a report was received from Constable Love on an AWOL soldier, James Milan Nedimovitch, in possession of a stolen Packard passenger car at the Coffee Pot Tavern in Galloway off U.S. Highway 65 (now a community in Springfield off South Lone Pine). The vehicle had been reported stolen in Arkansas. Constable Love requested assistance from Justice Stubbs and Troopers "Vic" Dosing and Sam Graham to make contact with Nedimovitch. Nedimovitch was also wanted for a murder in Little Rock, Arkansas. Information was developed that he was dating one of the waitresses at the Coffee Pot Tavern. Nedimovitch was reported to be staying in the apartment above the coffee shop, which looked like its lid from the outside.

Tpr. Dosing, followed by Tpr. Graham, Constable Love, and Justice Stubbs made their way up the stairs. As they reached the top, the door opened and a hail of gunfire streamed out the door. Tpr. Dosing was fatally shot in the chest and Tpr. Graham was seriously wounded. Tpr. Dosing fell into the doorway of the apartment. Tpr. Graham fell backward into Constable Love. There was silence for several minutes. Then, a gunshot was heard coming from inside the apartment. Nedimovitch had taken Tpr. Dosing's service weapon and committed suicide with it.

Retired Sergeant Hubert P. Bruner reflected on this fateful day. It was Sergeant Kahler's birthday, and he and Trooper Wadley were at the office, located at a Civilian Conservation Camp in Neosho. (This was when Camp Crowder was being built.) He stated he was at home and was called and directed to pick up Tpr. Wadley at the office and report to Springfield. He and Tpr. Wadley were four miles outside of Neosho when they received a radio message advising them the assailant had been shot. He was directed to go back to his office in Neosho. While back at the office, they were talking about Vic and Sam. The radio broadcasted Pearl Harbor had been attacked. This incident had occurred within 10 minutes of the actual time of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The next day's headlines were split in the Springfield News Leader: "State Trooper Slain," was followed by "Japs Attack Pearl Harbor". The newspaper contained more information about the shooting in Galloway than anything else. Trooper Bruner and Sergeant Roy Robertson served as honor guards, while retired Lt. Eugene Burnum served as a pallbearer at Tpr. Dosing's funeral. After Tpr. Graham recovered, he left the Patrol for a job with the U.S. Secret Service.

Tpr. Dosing was the third member of the Patrol to die in the line of duty. His wife, Rosalie, was pregnant with their third daughter at the time of his death.

On February 21, 1942, a Patrol Auxiliary was formed to assist with wartime duties. On June 1, 1942, weigh station operations were transferred from the Highway Department to the Patrol. Stations 9 (Carthage) and 10 (Springfield) were established. In 1950, an additional weigh station was added in Republic.

On August 15, 1947, the first aircraft traffic enforcement operation occurred in Troop D. Drivers were stopped for unsafely passing on hills. This was a new enforcement tactic, and it was unknown how the public would react. Therefore, only warnings were given.

On December 14, 1948, Troop D Headquarters was moved to West Sunshine in Springfield.

On November 25, 1953, Troopers Ronald and Donald Selvey became the first set of identical twins to serve on the Patrol. They were both assigned to Troop D. Ronald was assigned to Neosho and Donald was assigned to Springfield. They both retired on May 31, 1989.

*"Don got his telegram accepting him as a recruit and I didn't get one,"* said retired Sergeant Ronald Selvey in a 2005 interview. *"I blamed that on getting married. But, turned out a western union clerk saw the two messages and thought they were the same message. She threw one away."*

*Sergeant Tom Loy came to the house, because Don had accepted and I hadn't answered. He came to the house and said, 'Your brother accepted his, why didn't you?' I told him I didn't get a telegram. 'Oh, you didn't get one? You were supposed to.' He sent me to Western Union to send a message of my acceptance provided the offer was still in effect. Western Union didn't make me pay for that. Said it was their mistake."*

*"We were assigned to a special assignment in Carthage one night,"* said retired Sergeant Donald Selvey in a 2005 interview. *"We were riding together. We got a call ... we found one gentleman had a concealed weapon. We arrested him. Ron went it to testify. He came out and I went in. The judge said, 'Wait a minute. Have your brother come in. I want the jury to see you side-by-side.' The jury laughed. Of course, so did the judge. He said he didn't want the jury to think we were trying to pull one over on them--there were two witnesses."*

*"Here's a story,"* tells retired Sgt. Ron Selvey in the 2005 interview. *"Don was in Springfield at the time. I had pulled into a truck stop to eat supper. It was near the state line of Oklahoma. I had just finished eating. This man walked up and had the most confused look on his face. I looked up and spoke to him. He said, 'I'd like to know something. How'd you get here so fast?' I said, 'I don't know what you mean.' He said, 'You stopped me in Springfield and I've been driving as fast as I dared. Here you are, finished eating.' I forget what I said. Probably something like, 'I guess I took a short cut.'"*

In 1959, the first Patrol helicopter was placed into service. Troop D Sergeant Bill East transferred to Jefferson City and became the first full-time pilot.

In 1961, four polygraph instruments were placed into service, one of which was assigned to Troop D.

In 1967, the Missouri State Highway Patrol exhibit trailer debuted at the Empire State Fair in Springfield. For the first time in the Patrol's history, 79 men were lodged, three per room, at the Holiday Inn. This was a milestone for the Patrol. Previously, members were required to stay in rooming houses and/or put in homes of other members.

In 1969, riots were rampant statewide at colleges and universities. Troop D officers quelled an attempt in Springfield before it could even get started.

On June 14, 1969, Trooper Ed Spear was on a traffic stop in Marshfield with a vehicle for excessive speed. The lady's husband, a motel manager, became argumentative while Tpr. Spear was writing a traffic citation. The man returned with a shotgun and confronted him. Tpr. Spear exited with his riot gun and became involved in

a physical confrontation with the man, disarming him. The man was able to go back inside the motel and retrieve a .45-caliber revolver. Tpr. Spear ducked behind his patrol car, but the man had fired quickly, striking him in the left hip. A second round struck the Vis-A-Bar. The man was later taken into custody without further incident.

A contract painter fell from the Troop D tower--approximately 200 feet--when his support rope broke. The man, Jerry Cook, was 26 years old and employed by Globe Industries Contractors.

On October 1, 1973, the first satellite stations, commanded by lieutenants, began operations. Troop D's is located in Carthage.

On July 14, 1976, Troop D held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Troop D Satellite Headquarters in Carthage. Colonel Sam S. Smith, superintendent of the Patrol, took part in the ceremony along with several others. Col. Smith also gave an address, expressing the Patrol's appreciation to the many citizens and officials of Jasper County who supported the project and were helpful in obtaining land for the building site. Work on the building began immediately after the ceremony.

On February 14, 1977, Troop D Headquarters was relocated to its current location at 3131 E. Kearney Street in Springfield. Later that year, Troop D's first fixed wing aircraft was assigned to the troop.

On January 30, 1978, Trooper E. Mike Shockley was critically wounded while trying to apprehend two men wanted in an earlier shooting incident. The men had shot out the window to the Land-O-Lakes Drive-In restaurant in Fair Play. They then assaulted and shot the café owner in the leg when he protested. Later that evening, it was reported the gunmen had been sighted near the old Circle C restaurant building in Fair Play. The building was surrounded and a deputy took one of the men into custody without incident. The other man was lying by the restaurant with a gun in his hand. Tpr. Shockley stepped around the corner with his shotgun aimed at the man. He directed him to surrender. The gunman fired his .22-caliber weapon, striking Tpr. Shockley in the left temple. Deputies pulled Tpr. Shockley to safety. The man refused to throw down his weapon and was killed at the scene by law enforcement. Tpr. Shockley recuperated and returned to duty. Tpr. Shockley retired June 1, 2005.

Troop D gained two new weigh stations on Interstate 44, west of Joplin. The eastbound scale opened on November 24, 1980, and the westbound scale opened December 1980. The cost of the entire project was \$666,554, which was paid with federal and state funds. The new scales are equipped with electronic Cardinal scales, and see much activity due to their location near the Oklahoma Turnpike.

In 1981, there was a massive manhunt for four escaped prisoners from Kansas in Southwest Missouri. After six days, all four convicts were captured.

A Troop D Auto Theft Task Force recovered 29 stolen vehicles and 19 stolen tractors in a cooperative effort among the Patrol, FBI, and St. Louis Police Department Auto Theft Unit. Those involved were Sgt. R.B. Divine, Sgt. W.A. Murphy, Sgt. G.C. Smith, Sgt. H.L. Williams (all Troop D), and Sgt. B.G. Gibson (GHQ). Troop D Mechanics M.D. Riddle and J.S. Rogers assisted.

On September 1, 1982, Howard Hoffman was named superintendent. He had been the Troop D Captain from August 1, 1975, to May 31, 1980.

*"A year before I retired in 1989," relates retired Sergeant Ronald Selvey in the 2005 interview, "a careless driver was coming down Highway 13. Tpr. J.L. Walker got a call on it, but missed him. I caught him, so I stopped him. He had a warrant in Henry County. I searched his car and decided I was going to have to take him in to post bond. I put my nightstick in my holder and came up to him, told him to remain seated and put his hands behind him. He slowly started to rise up. I didn't think much of it, thought he didn't hear me. He hit me in the neck and grabbed me in a bear hug and shoved me off to the side of the road. I hit my head on a rock and was almost unconscious before three people pulled him off me. He turned out to be an escapee from a halfway house in Kansas City. It wasn't in the computer yet."*

The largest drug bust in the history of the Patrol occurred on February 25, 1988. Corporal Matt Brown, Troop D, confiscated more than 200 pounds of cocaine worth nearly \$11 million in Southwest Missouri. Cpl. Brown was working traffic and stopped a driver in a station wagon on Interstate 44 for speeding. He received permission from the driver to search the car and found 89 plastic-wrapped bricks of almost pure cocaine stuffed inside three bags and a suitcase. The cocaine, weighing 225 pounds, had an estimated street value of \$10.8 million. The driver and a passenger were arrested.

Commercial motor vehicle enforcement has played a major role in the development of the Patrol. In a pilot program in conjunction with the Federal Department of Highway Administration, Troop D's weigh station at Joplin on Interstate 44 was equipped with four fully marked, federally approved concrete safety inspection lanes. An electronic height detector was installed, also. These lanes allowed inspectors to perform safer, more rigorous truck inspections.

On April 15, 1989, Trooper Jimmie E. Linegar and Trooper Allen D. Hines were conducting a traffic check on MO Highway 86 at the U.S. Highway 65 junction in Taney County. It was early afternoon. While checking a motorist, a radio check revealed a possible hit for a weapons violation warrant on an alias name of Matthew Mark Samuels (David Tate), a member of the Aryan nation. Tpr. Linegar was not convinced the hit was valid, but told Tpr. Hines, and they started back toward the van. Tate was armed with a Mac 11 with a silencer and a 30 round clip. He fired out the right window at Tpr. Hines. He then rolled out the driver's door and shot Tpr. Linegar. Tate went to finish Tpr. Hines, who rolled under the van and returned fire, striking Tate. Tate fled into the woods. Tpr. Linegar died at the scene. Tate was captured on April 20, after an extensive manhunt. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Tpr. Hines was treated for three gunshot wounds and released the next day. He would retire as a sergeant on May 1, 2001.

On February 8, 1987, Trooper Russell W. Harper stopped a vehicle near the intersection of US 60 and Greene County Farm Road 189. Glennon Paul Sweet, who was wanted on drug and weapon offenses, was driving the vehicle. Sweet had traveled north about 50 yards before he stopped. Sweet exited with an automatic weapon and riddled Tpr. Harper's patrol car. Tpr. Harper was killed instantly, while still seated in his patrol car. Sweet fled the scene. He was later captured on February 10, while hiding in an attic in a residence in Springfield. Sweet was put to death by the state of Missouri in April 1998. Major Morris E. Patrick, Lt. Robert Bloomberg, Sergeant Alan Raetz, and retired Captain Jack L. Merritt served as witnesses to the execution.

Governor John Ashcroft named Trooper Jack McMullin, Troop D, the May 1989 State Employee of the Month. Tpr. McMullin was recognized for his outstanding efforts in drug interdiction. Specifically, in November 1988, Tpr. McMullin was responsible for the arrest of two individuals attempting to transport more than 1,100 pounds of cocaine. This was the second largest highway interdiction of cocaine in the nation to date. Governor Ashcroft also mentioned Tpr. McMullin's "routine" traffic stops led to at least 22 arrests, the seizure of more than 600 pounds of marijuana, 24 firearms, and more than \$188,000 in 1988.

On October 6, 1993, Patrol pilot, Corporal Mark Tovar, and passenger, Sergeant Tim Selvey, were in a helicopter crash at the Cassville Airport during a marijuana eradication operation. The crash occurred when mounting bolts failed and tail rotor control was lost. Sgt. Selvey received a Valor Award for saving Cpl. Tovar's life during the incident.

On September 16, 1994, Corporal Bobbie Harper was shot "sniper style" by Timothy Thomas Coombs as he stood in his kitchen. This was in retaliation for an earlier arrest by Cpl. Harper. Cpl. Harper retired February 1, 1995. Coombs remains at large.

In December 1995, Troop D's Satellite Crime Laboratory moved into a newly renovated building.

On February 12, 1996, Corporal Rex Kaunley and Trooper Darren Call, of the Troop D SERT, were injured in a gun battle between SERT and a 73-year-old man in Ozark County. SERT had been activated at the request of the Ozark County sheriff, after the man had shot and injured one of his deputies. Deputies believed the man had tried to set fire to a neighbor's house. Members of SERT established a command post near Theodosia, Missouri, and were securing the area when they spotted the suspect. After being told to drop his weapon, the man turned and opened fire on the officers, who returned fire. Cpl. Kaunley suffered a wound to his thigh and Tpr. Call received a scalp wound. The suspect died in the exchange.

In July 1997, the first Drugfire hit from a pistol being seized occurred after a routine traffic stop by Trooper James Musche. The weapon had been used in a drive-by shooting in Newton County a year earlier. This led to a confession by the suspect of that crime, who was also the driver at the time of Tpr. Musche's traffic stop.

On October 15, 1997, the Major Crash Investigation Unit was formed.

In 1999, Troop D hosted the first Community Alliance Program. This program familiarized participants with Patrol operations and procedures through recruit-style classroom training, practical exercises, and personal interaction with members and employees of the Patrol. The CAP has seen tremendous success since then.

On June 1, 2001, Roger D. Stottlemire was appointed superintendent of the Patrol. He had served as Troop D's captain from September 1, 1995 to April 30, 1998.

Several Troop D employees were honored for their actions in 2001. At the annual banquet in 2002, The MASTERS presented its Public Service Award to Cpl. Mark D. Green for his tireless efforts to raise money for Special Olympics. His efforts raised nearly \$10,000 for the organization in 2001.

Trooper Walter L. Burr was given a Lifesaving Award for his actions on June 29, 2001. Tpr. Burr was on routine patrol when he located a vehicle in a Joplin municipal

park. The vehicle was running, and he observed a flexible dryer hose attached to both the tail pipe and the passenger compartment. Tpr. Burr requested assistance and then opened the doors to the vehicle. The occupant began to revive. A suicide note was found in the vehicle. Medical personnel arrived and transported the individual to the hospital. Tpr. Burr's observation and quick actions saved a man's life.

On June 1, 2001, Corporal Donald M. Ivie responded to a request for assistance from the Webster County Sheriff's Department. He arrived at a residence where an intoxicated, suicidal subject was armed with a handgun and had shot into the air after officers arrived. Cpl. Ivie decided to circle the residence and look for a good observation point. He remained in constant contact with the other troopers and eventually made his way into the basement of the residence. Cpl. Ivie observed the man from the basement stairway. At one point, the subject returned to the front deck of his residence, sat down, and placed his weapon next to him. Another trooper relayed this information to Cpl. Ivie. Cpl. Ivie then ran across the living room, out the front door, and tackled the man before he could reach his weapon. The subject was taken into custody. The Patrol presented a 2001 Meritorious Citation to Cpl. Ivie at its annual awards banquet in 2002.

On August 7, 2002, Sergeant David A. Callaway, Troop D pilot, and Sergeant Matthew K. Funderburk, Troop D criminal interdiction zone, planned to begin their tour of duty by observing marijuana growing operations from a Patrol helicopter. Shortly after taking off from Springfield Downtown Airport, a bolt in the tail rotor failed, causing the tail rotor and gearbox to shear off the helicopter. Sgt. Callaway maneuvered the damaged aircraft away from the heavy traffic on U.S. Highway 65 and avoided a large church and 3M facility near it. Also near the crash site was Pure-Flo Precision Stainless Industries. Approximately 350 people work at these industries. The crash of the helicopter seriously injured both Sgt. Callaway and Sgt. Funderburk, who were transported to St. John's Hospital. Due to Sgt. Callaway's flying ability and heroic actions, which prevented more people from being injured, the Patrol awarded him a Meritorious Citation at its annual award ceremony in May 2003.

Also at the annual awards banquet, Captain John T. Prine was named 2002 Officer of the Year. He was nominated for his management of Troop D, including: reorganization of the troop, development of interagency relationships, energy, dedication, and loyalty.

On December 2003, Trooper Kelsey J. Rutledge and Corporal Mark C. Mason were northbound on Missouri Highway 43 in Barton County during the course of an investigation. They observed a red pickup traveling above the posted speed limit. They made a traffic stop. Upon contacting the driver, it was apparent that he was in great distress. The driver was in pain, clutching his chest, reaching for a bottle of nitroglycerin pills. After calling for an ambulance, the officers decided they needed to transport the man. They met the ambulance east of Lamar. Cpl. Mason drove the ambulance in order for the paramedics could help the man. Later, the man was airlifted to St. John's Hospital to undergo heart surgery. For their lifesaving actions, the Patrol awarded Tpr. Rutledge and Cpl. Mason a 2003 Lifesaving Award.

On September 19, 2003, Trooper Robert C. Savage overheard radio traffic from the El Dorado Springs Police Department to the Cedar County Sheriff's Office requesting assistance. Because he was close to the location, Tpr. Savage responded. When he

arrived, he found a four-month-old child who had stopped breathing. Tpr. Savage cleared the child's airway and performed CPR until medical personnel arrived. For his actions, the Patrol awarded Tpr. Savage a 2003 Lifesaving Award.

On December 7, 2004, a memorial honoring Tpr. Vic O. Dosing was placed near where he was murdered near Galloway. His three daughters--Jo Ann, Janet Lee, and Vicki Ona--attended the ceremony.

Trooper Cinton S. Mason saved the life of a 17-year-old man who became trapped between a culvert and a boat in Butler Creek, south of Noel, Missouri. The young man and two friends had attempted to retrieve a paddleboat swept downstream by floodwaters. When the young man became trapped, one friend held his head above water as the other went for help. Tpr. Mason and McDonald County deputies arrived and entered the swift current. After 30 minutes, they were able to pull the man from the water. He recovered fully. For his actions, Tpr. Mason was awarded a 2004 Lifesaving Citation at the May 2005 annual awards banquet.

Sergeant Dale B. Hemphill also received a 2004 Lifesaving Citation. He stopped for dinner at Smith's Restaurant in Collins, Missouri. Another patron began to choke, and Sgt. Hemphill used the Heimlich maneuver to save his life.

Commercial Vehicle Officer Supervisor J. David Brooks and Commercial Vehicle Officer Ricky L. Talbert were named 2005 Civilians of the Year for their success in drug interdiction while performing their duties. The citation read in part, "Their knowledge of the transportation industry, commercial vehicle laws and regulations, and criminal behavior results in tons of illegal drugs being removed from Missouri's highways each year, preventing it from being dispersed in our nation's neighborhoods. In 2005, they were directly involved in ten major drug interdictions, and responsible for seizing over 9,763 pounds of marijuana, 15 kilos of cocaine, and \$70,000." The award was presented at the annual awards banquet in May 2006.

On August 18, 2005, while reconstructing an accident on Interstate 44, Corporal John A. "Jay" Sampietro was struck by an SUV driven by a resident of Oklahoma. Cpl. Sampietro was transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries a short time later. The driver of the SUV was later convicted of involuntary manslaughter. This incident, along with other similar incidents around the state involving emergency personnel, raised awareness of the "Move Over" campaign. [The Move Over law became effective on August 28, 2002. The law states drivers must--when possible--change lanes away from emergency vehicles with lights activated where emergency personnel are working on the shoulders of the roadways. If changing lanes is not possible, drivers are required to reduce their speed.]

Due to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast, Missouri's State Emergency Management Agency received a request for assistance from its counterpart in Mississippi. A detail of 56 personnel (eight members and one communications employee from Troop D) left Missouri on September 9, 2005. Members of the detail provided security; restricted access in areas where heavy equipment was attempting to clear debris; assisted residents as they searched for what used to be their home and personal belongings; and assisted at Red Cross distribution centers. Members of the detail were greatly affected by the amount of devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. The Patrol served and protected citizens in the state of Mississippi admirably. All

employees returned to Missouri on September 17, 2005. The detail, dubbed "Show-Me Relief", based operations in Biloxi, Mississippi. This was the first time the Patrol had assisted with an out-of-state catastrophe of this kind.

On December 25, 2005, Corporal S. Matthew Patterson responded to a shooting in rural McDonald County. A domestic dispute had turned violent when a female shot her husband with a .38-caliber handgun. Afterward, the husband made his way to a neighbor's home and called the McDonald County Sheriff's Office. Cpl. Patterson was one of the officers who responded to a call for assistance. He located the suspect, who had placed a pistol to her head in an apparent suicide attempt. Cpl. Patterson remained calm and repeatedly gave her commands, finally talking her into dropping the handgun. She was then taken into custody. Cpl. Patterson received a Meritorious Citation for his actions at the annual Patrol awards banquet in May 2006.

DPS Director Mark S. James named Corporal Bradley S. Bearden, Troop D, DPS Employee of the Month for March 2006. The recognition came as a result of Cpl. Bearden's looking beyond the initial traffic stop. When he checked the two ATVs, and found they were stolen, he arrested the two men driving them. Further questioning led him to \$40,000 in stolen property, thus solving several thefts and burglaries.

Also at the May 2006 awards banquet, Mrs. Jennifer Sampietro accepted a Memorial Award on behalf of her husband, Cpl. Jay Sampietro.

The number of CDL retests required in 2006, due to the closing of a third party testing site in Troop D, caused driver examiners to log many hours of overtime to relieve the backlog of appointments. A supervisory position was added at the current Carthage CDL testing site where a new facility broke ground in 2006 with an anticipated completion date of June 2007.

Troop D Radio personnel continued their high standards of excellence in service and dedication to the citizens of Missouri by fielding emergency and non-emergency phone calls and operating the Patrol's radio communications network on three channels. In addition to high demands placed on personnel at the front desk and in the radio room, Radio personnel served in other support functions as well. Four participated in SWAT operations. A vehicle was outfitted specifically for SWAT communications and operated by Troop D Radio personnel. Troop D has one person assigned with primary training duties and four assisting in support functions. In 2006, Troop D Radio personnel provided MULES training to 159 students and MDT access training to 136 officers.

On October 25, 2006, Mrs. Jennifer Sampietro, her sons, Matt and Will, joined family, friends, and members of the Patrol at Troop D. The gathering was to celebrate the dedication of a portion of Interstate 44 as the Cpl. Jay Sampietro Memorial Highway.

In 2007, a new Commercial Drivers License (CDL) test site was constructed in Jasper County. The new facility is conveniently located on U.S. Highway 71 south of the Troop D Service Center. It boasts an indoor pre-trip inspection bay, large lot for testing, and is spacious for applicants and inspectors.

Criminal interdiction has been a mainstay in Troop D for many years, and 2009 was no different. Officers seized over 4,300 pounds of marijuana, 204 pounds of cocaine, and 23 pounds of methamphetamine.

In May 2009, the new Branson Airport opened with an airshow, which drew crowds between 40,000 to 50,000 people. Participants included the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, U.S. Army Golden Knights, and the Aeroshell Aerobatic Team.

Troop D hosted the first Patrol sponsored "Church Security Seminar" in Springfield, MO. The seminar consisted of Patrol employees training approximately 100 area church personnel in self defense, tactical verbal skills, and lessons learned from past church incidents. The guest speaker was Captain Brad Wells from the Madison County Sheriff's Department in Illinois. Captain Wells was an investigator at the First Baptist Church shooting in Maryville, IL, where the pastor was killed by a lone gunman.

Much of Missouri, including the Troop D region, was affected by flooding in 2009. The annual National Motocross Races were scheduled in Galena, MO, for October, but were postponed due to flooding. Several spectators and participants had to be rescued due to the rising waters of the James River and rapidly deteriorating conditions. The race was rescheduled for later in the month without any problems.

In October, Trooper J. Michael Linegar transferred from Troop C, St Louis, to Troop D, and was assigned to Stone County. Tpr. Linegar's father, Trooper Jimmie E. Linegar, was assigned to Stone County in 1985, when he was slain on duty while conducting a traffic stop.

College of The Ozarks has a rich history of hosting guest speakers from around the world. In December 2009, former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin visited the College of The Ozarks campus in Branson, MO. Gov. Palin gave a rousing speech to a receptive audience, and three WWII veterans were recognized by the College for their bravery and service to our country. Ten members of Troop D assisted with security for the event.

In April 2010, Trooper Kenneth R. "Kenny" Sanders was honored at Troop D Headquarters by the Jasper/Newton counties chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for his tenacity in arresting drunk drivers. Colonel Ron Replogle, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, along with representatives from MADD presented the award to Tpr. Sanders.

During the summer months, Operation Safe Ride was conducted in the Joplin area in conjunction with the Joplin Police Department and the Jasper County Sheriff's Office. A number of officers from each agency along with the Patrol's helicopter directed their efforts toward promoting and enforcing motorcycle safety. The initiative netted several violations including speed, careless and imprudent driving, impaired driving, and several warrant arrests.

Missouri State University, in Springfield, has played host to the Missouri Special Olympics for the last three years and 2010 was no different. Thousands of athletes from all over the state converged to compete with others and be cheered by all. Col. Replogle, Capt. Villanueva, and a host of troopers and other law enforcement personnel were on hand for opening ceremonies and to award medals throughout the event.

In September, a new Patrol crime laboratory, adjacent to the Troop D Service Center, south of Carthage, was completed and began accepting evidence. Law enforcement agencies from across Southwest Missouri submit a variety of evidence for analysis to the new lab. Prior to the opening of the new lab, evidence had to be submitted to the Patrol lab in Springfield.

On a cold night in December, the Branson Belle ran aground during an excursion on Table Rock Lake with 600 passengers on board. The Missouri State Water Patrol, Missouri State Highway Patrol, first responders, fire departments, law enforcement agencies, and the United States Coast Guard worked together to rescue them. Passengers and crew members of the Branson Belle spent 19 hours on the vessel before being rescued.

On the following pages, there is more information regarding Troop D's captains, lieutenants, and civilian personnel. This information is maintained and updated by Troop D Special Assistant Sandra Stroud.

### TROOP D COMMANDERS

# 3- Lewis E. Eslick	November 24, 1931 to August 30, 1934
# 7- Lewis B. Howard	September 1, 1934 to September 30, 1939
#50-#9-#6- Rufus R. Reed	October 1, 1939 to May 15, 1942
#29- 1Sgt. Frank D. Hagan*	May 16, 1942 to November 8, 1942
# 6 - Frank D. Hagan	November 9, 1942 to September 21, 1944
#10- George B. Kahler	September 22, 1944 to June 30, 1955
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
Harvey George	Until 1953; before Burnum
Eugene B. Burnum	
#10- Clark W. Huston	July 1, 1955 to December 31, 1967
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
Eugene B. Burnum	
John Rick	
H. F. Wickham	
#38 - Gilbert B. Tappmeyer	
#10- Robert E. Swackhamer	January 1, 1968 to July 31, 1975
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#38 - Gilbert B. Tappmeyer	Retired 8/31/72
#38 - James L. Englehart	1/01/76 to 7/31/79
#37 - Victor J. McKee	to 01/01/76
#10- Howard J. L. Hoffman	August 1, 1975 to May 31, 1980
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#38 - James L. Englehart	1/01/76 to 7/31/79 Troop F CO
#38 - George Cumberland	8/01/79 to 5/31/87
#37 - Victor J. McKee	to 1/01/76 Troop G CO
#37 - Glen M. Wilson	1/01/76 to 2/28/76 Retired
#37 - C. Lee Thompson	3/01/78 to 8/01/80
#48 - Edward F. Christman	1/01/76 to 5/31/80
#10- Edward F. Christman**	June 1, 1980 to July 31, 1980
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#38 - George Cumberland	8/01/79 to 5/31/87
#37 - C. Lee Thompson	3/01/78 to 8/01/80
#48 - Robert E. Ashurst	6/01/80 to 9/01/84 Transfer to DDCC

#37- Lt. C. Lee Thompson*	May 14, 1980 to July 31, 1980
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Robert D. Matthews	8/01/80 to 8/31/89
#38 - George Cumberland	8/01/79 to 9/01/84 Transfer to Troop G
#48 - Robert E. Ashurst	6/01/80 to 9/01/84 Transfer to DDCC
#23-#14- C. Lee Thompson	August 1, 1980 to August 31, 1987
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Robert D. Matthews	8/01/80 to 8/31/89
#38 - George Cumberland	8/01/79 to 9/01/84 Transfer to Troop G
#63 - Edward D. Elmore	9/01/84 to 5/31/89 Transfer from Tp. G
#48 - Robert E. Ashurst	6/01/80 to 9/01/84 Transfer to DDCC
#51 - Edgar J. Dayringer	9/01/84 to 8/31/97 Transfer to HRD
#14- Lewis G. Ullery	September 1, 1987 to October 14, 1989
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Robert D. Matthews	8/01/80 to 8/31/89 Retired
#33 - Melvin O. Schmitt	9/01/89 to 7/31/98
#51 - Edgar J. Dayringer	9/01/84 to 8/31/97 Transferred to HRD
#57 - David L. Cook	9/01/87 to 8/31/92 Troop G CO
#63 - Edward D. Elmore	9/01/84 to 5/31/89 Retired
#63 - Morris E. Patrick	6/01/89 to 10/14/93 Troop E CO
#14- Stephen R. Johnson	October 15, 1989 to October 31, 1991
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Melvin O. Schmitt	9/01/89 to 7/31/98
#44 - William C. Baker	9/01/91 to 7/31/01 New position
#63 - Morris E. Patrick	6/01/89 to 10/14/93 Troop E CO
#57 - David L. Cook	9/01/87 to 8/31/92 Troop G CO
#14- Michael B. Pace	November 1, 1991 to August 31, 1995
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Melvin O. Schmitt	9/01/89 to 7/31/98
#44 - William C. Baker	9/01/91 to 7/31/01
#63 - Morris E. Patrick	6/01/89 to 10/14/93 Troop E CO
#63 - Thomas H. Martin	12/01/93 to 6/30/98 Retired
#57 - David L. Cook	9/01/87 to 8/31/92 Troop G CO
#57 - Joseph L. Swearngen	9/01/92 to 3/31/99 Troop I CO
#14- Roger D. Stottlemyre	September 1, 1995 to April 30, 1998
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Melvin O. Schmitt	9/01/89 to 7/31/98
#44 - William C. Baker	9/01/91 to 7/31/01
#63 - Thomas H. Martin	12/01/93 to 6/30/98 Retired
#57 - Joseph L. Swearngen	9/01/92 to 3/31/99 Troop I CO
#50- Lt. Edward F. Bliefnick	May 1, 1998 to May 31, 1998
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Melvin O. Schmitt	9/01/89 to 7/31/98

#44 - William C. Baker	9/01/91 to 7/31/01
#63 - Thomas H. Martin	12/01/93 to 6/30/98 Retired
#57 - Joseph L. Swearengin	9/01/92 to 3/31/99 Troop I CO
#18- Edward F. Bliefnick	June 1, 1998 to July 31, 1998
<u>Lieutenants</u>	
#33 - Melvin O. Schmitt	9/01/89 to 7/31/98
#44 - William C. Baker	9/01/91 to 7/31/01
#63 - Thomas H. Martin	12/01/93 to 6/30/98 Retired
#63 - Robert H. Rothrock	July 1, 1998 to
#57 - Joseph L. Swearengin	9/01/92 to 3/31/99 Troop I CO
#27- Melvin O. Schmitt	August 1, 1998 to December 31, 2001
<b>Lieutenants</b>	
#33 - William L. Hobbs	8/01/98 to 9/01/99
#42 - William L. Hobbs	9/01/99 to 1/01/02 Transfer to Troop G
#44 - William C. Baker	9/01/91 to 7/31/01 Retired
#44 - Terry R. Moore	8/01/01 to
#63 - Robert H. Rothrock	7/01/98 to
#57 - Joseph L. Swearengin	9/01/92 to 3/31/99 Troop I CO
#57 - Robert L. Powell	4/01/99 to
#93 - Juan O. Villanueva	1/01/99 to

#27- John T. Prine	January 1, 2002 to July 31, 2006
<b>Lieutenants</b>	
#44 - Terry R. Moore	8/01/01 to
#45 - P. Mike Mulholland	2/10/02 to 5/01/07
#63 - Robert H. Rothrock	7/01/98 to
#57 - Robert L. Powell	4/01/99 to
#93 - Juan O. Villanueva	1/01/99 to
#27 - Randall S. Beydler	August 1, 2006 to
<b>Lieutenants</b>	
#44 - Terry R. Moore	8/01/01 to
#45 - Brian E. Jones	5/13/07 to
#63 - Robert H. Rothrock	7/01/98 to 12/31/06
#57 - Robert L. Powell	4/01/99 to 04/18/08
#93 - Juan O. Villanueva	1/01/99 to 11/31/08
#27 - Juan O. Villanueva	12/01/08
<b>Lieutenants</b>	
#44 - Terry R. Moore	08/01/01 to
#45 - Brian E. Jones	05/13/07 to
#63 - Albert O. Brown	01/01/07 to
#52 - David S. Sater	02/01/05 to
#42 - William D. Choate	01/01/10 to

\*- Indicates "Acting" Troop Commander

\*\* - S/A as Acting Commander of Troop C - Never actually served Troop D

## TROOP D SATELLITE - CARTHAGE

### Originated October 1, 1973

#48 - Lt. Edward F. Christman	October 1, 1973 to May 13, 1980
#48 - Lt. Robert E. Ashurst	June 1, 1980 to August 31, 1984
#51 - Lt. Edgar Joe Dayringer	September 1, 1984 to August 31, 1987
#57 - Lt. David L. Cook	September 1, 1987 to August 31, 1992
#57 - Lt. Joseph L. Swearngen	September 1, 1992 to March 31, 1999
#57 - Lt. Robert L. Powell	April 1, 1999 to 04/18/08

No lieutenant assigned to the Troop D Satellite after Lieuteanat Powell