

from the STAFF

Lt. Colonel David A. Flannigan Assistant Superintendent

LOOKING BACK ... FULL SPEED AHEAD



I

enjoy notable historical events, and here are a few things that occurred in the Patrol's history in 1975:

- The first two female troopers graduated in the 43rd Recruit Class
- Troopers no longer had to wear the uniform blouse during the winter months, and the Class A
 uniform was to be worn year-round. The blouse would only be used for designated occasions.
 The Class B uniform did not make its debut until 1986, and it was only allowed for the months of
 June, July, and August
- The Speedgun II became the first moving radar unit to be widely installed in patrol vehicles, although it was not installed in all of them
- Troopers were no longer required to wear a right-side holster. Troopers who could achieve a higher qualification score with their left hand were allowed to wear the holster on their left side
- With height requirements changed the year prior, 1975 was the first (and only) full calendar year when the minimum height for a trooper was reduced from 5'9" to 5'8" and the maximum height of 6'4" was removed. In 1976, the height requirements were discarded altogether. I've talked to a few people throughout the years who had a relative that could not be a trooper because they were too tall!

Fifty years later, as interesting as they are, these may be seen simply as historical footnotes. However, in reliving the Patrol's past accomplishments, we can see the grit and determination of those who came before us. Their successes molded the Patrol into a premier law enforcement agency. The accomplishments of yesterday are storied and sometimes mesmerizing.

The universe of American policing is a combination of "what's old is new again" and "what's next on the horizon." While civil unrest, pay disparity, public service, trust in police, politics, safety, technological evolution, and many other things are nothing new in policing, agency leaders must always be vigilant to do what they can to maintain employee morale and public trust while serving the public interest in a predictive manner rather than in a reactive one. This is especially true within the Patrol, since legislative and fiscal planning often occur years in advance.

Specific to the Patrol, we arrived at another crossroads earlier this year with a new governor, DPS director, and superintendent. Changes have already occurred with regard to the Colonel's priorities of Service and Protection, Employee Safety and Wellness, Recruiting and Retention, and Improved Communication. Governor Kehoe has identified improving public safety in Missouri as one of his priorities, and he considers the Patrol to be a key part of addressing those efforts.

Even with the recent changes, we must maintain an eye on the horizon. Movement is not necessarily progress, so we have to make sure we are moving forward to position the agency for "the next thing." Employees should constantly view where we are today to effect positive change tomorrow and beyond to serve Missourians as best we can. Resting on our laurels allows complacency to creep in.

Being dedicated to our mission truly makes a positive difference, and the Patrol has been the premier law enforcement agency that Missourians have counted on for 94 years. Our employees, both sworn and non-sworn, perform incredibly well in so many areas. As I prepare to join the legions of retirees, I am extremely humbled to have been a very small part of such a wonderful agency. I will miss the Patrol very much, and the interaction with the best employees in the state of Missouri. What you do every day means so much to so many. Keep moving forward.

DA. Flannigen

CELEBRATING OVER 59 YEARS OF NEWS

MIKE KEHOE. GOVERNOR State of Missouri

MARK S. JAMES Department of Public Safety

MICHAEL A. TURNER, SUPERINTENDENT Missouri State Highway Patrol

PATROL NEWS STAFF

Capt. Scott White **Managing Editor**

Rachel Hays **Photography**

Lt. Eric Brown Editor

Meghan Clouse Social Media

Holly Hyde Designer

Chad Buschjost Printing

TROOP REPORTERS

Troop A: Cpl. Justin Ewing Troop B: Sgt. Justin Dunn Troop C: Cpl. Dallas Thompson Troop D: Cpl. Sam Carpenter Troop E: Sgt. Clark Parrott

Troop F: Sgt. Kyle Green Troop G: Sgt. Eddie Young Troop H: Sgt. Shane Hux Troop I: Cpl. Ralicia Tyler

GHQ REPORTERS

Aircraft: Sqt. Jon Cluver Budget & Procurement: Emma Kliethermes Communications: Zachary Dykes Comm. Vehicle Enforcement: Asst. Dir. Jeffrey Sims Crime Laboratory: Director Brian Hoey Criminal Justice Information Services: Amanda Gove Driver & Vehicle Safety: Kimberly Heritage Drug & Crime Control: Sgt. Brad Germann Field Operations: Capt. Brandon White Gaming: Capt. Andy Tourney Governor's Security: Capt. Diana Hutzler Human Resources: Caitlan Elley Fleet & Facilities: Zach Russell Research & Development: Jessica Mealy Patrol Records: Caroline Keeney Recruiting & Community Outreach: Cpl. Mike Malone Training: Lt. Trois Maloney Water Patrol: Capt. Mike Petlansky

The Patrol News is published by the **Public Information & Education Division** of the Missouri State Highway Patrol in the interest of all active and retired personnel. (573) 526-6115

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL



ON THE COVFR

This early morning photo taken by Rachel Hays (Q/PIED) was the Patrol's entry in the American Association of State Trooper's (AAST) "Best-Looking Cruiser Contest." The top 13 states get their photo featured in a calendar sold by AAST. Although the Patrol did not place in the Top 13, we still think it's a great photo! The Missouri sculpture, located at Deborah Cooper Park on Adrian's Island, was the perfect backdrop.

IN THIS ISSUF

Troop H Family

Night

Retirements

Team Member Appreciation Week

Recruit Class 123 Graduate

DPS Non-Sworn Members of the Month

Troop F Hosts

Community/

Program

Sympathy

Student Alliance

Woods and Seymore Awarded for Distinguished Service

Patrol Trivia

Looking Back

Troop C Assists Community After EF3 **Tornado Strikes**

Obituaries

Goans and Craig DPS Sworn Team Members of the Month

53rd American **Legion Cadet Patrol Academy** Graduates

Four-Week Marine Enforcement Course

Family Fun Day



Reserve Your Piece of History Today!

Celebrate the Missouri State Highway Patrol's 95th anniversary with a keepsake yearbook.



Full color photos of current and retired agency personnel



In-Memoriam tribute to fallen troopers



History of the Patrol



Hundreds of photographs of the men and women of MSHP



Special stories from agency members, past and present

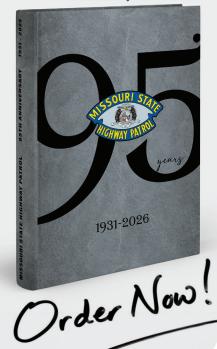


9x12, Leatherette Hardcover, (leather collector's edition & personalization available)

WE NEED YOU!



These are your memories! Help us by sending in your stories and photos. Action shots, group photos, history, fun memories - we want to hear from you. All photos should include a brief caption including who, what, when and where. Send any stories and photos for consideration to the MSHP Yearbook Committee at: MSHPbook@acclaimpress.com.



ORDER DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Missouri State Highway Patrol 95th Anniversary Yearbook	Qty	Price	Total
Deluxe Edition		\$59.95	
Leather Collector's Edition		\$99.95	
Emboss your name on the book cover - \$8.00 per line*		\$8.00	
Shipping & handling - add \$8.57 first book, \$5.25 for each add'l book to the same address (check below)			
		TOTAL	

Mail to:
MSHP 95th Anniversary Yearbook
c/o Acclaim Press
P.O. Box 238 • Morley, MO 63767
Or click the QR code at right to visit
the MSHP book ordering page.



for each add I book to the same address (check below)					
	TOTAL				
Method of Payment:	s) 🗆 Visa 🗀 Masterca	ard 🗖 Discover	Name (Please Print)		
Name on Credit Card			Address		
*Name to be embossed – print each letter in the squ	piration Date		City	State	ZIP
in between words; 24 spaces per line, 2		-G -T	Phone		**E-mail Address
PRINTYO	UR	NAM	EHE	RE	



n Saturday, July 5, 2025, Troop H employees and their families gathered at Phil Welch Stadium in St. Joseph for a fun-filled evening celebrating First Responder Night, as the St. Joseph Mustangs hosted the Clarinda A's. Before the first pitch, several Troop H members teamed up with the St. Joseph

Police Department for the annual Law Enforcement versus Fire Department softball game. It was a close contest, but the firefighters edged out a win.

Corporal Dylan Wilburn held down third base with dependable defense, Corporal Matt Neely showed off impressive speed on the base paths, and Trooper Jack Schmedding used his height to good advantage anchoring first base.

After the softball game, employees and their families gathered at the right-field pavilion to socialize, enjoy the Mustangs game, and share in a

Captain Shawn Skoglund and retired Sergeant Kevin Haywood Sr. welcomed fans at the stadium entrance, proudly representing the Patrol.

> On display for the public were two iconic Patrol vehicles: a 1988 Ford Mustang and

> > a 2025 Ford Mustang. How fitting for the Missouri

State Highway Patrol to showcase Mustangs at a St. Joseph Mustangs game! The specially marked patrol vehicle featuring ghost decals also drew plenty of attention from fans, young and old. It was a memorable evening full of camaraderie, community interaction, and baseball fun.







TIMOTHY R. SCHLUETER **Division Assistant Director** Q/CJIS Retired June 1, 2025 47 years of dedicated service



TERRY A. BIBLE Corporal Troop D Retired June 1, 2025 27 years, 4 mo. of dedicated service



LUANN K. URBAN Lead Admin. Support Asst. Troop H Retired June 1, 2025 11 years of dedicated service



BRYAN G. GRAHAM Corporal Q/GD Retired June 1, 2025 28 years, 5 mo. of dedicated service



JOHN P. CALLIHAN Comm. Op. Troop C Retired July 1, 2025 18 years, 1 mo. of dedicated service



ROBERT V. MCCORMICK Corporal Q/FOB Retired July 1, 2025 28 years, 6 mo. of dedicated service

PATROL CELEBRATES STATE TEAM MEMBER APPRECIATION WEEK

he Patrol celebrated State Team Member Appreciation Week with a variety of fun activities. Employees were allowed to wear jeans throughout the week. Each day featured a different theme for fun or creative shirts, and GHQ team members were treated to a fish fry on Thursday. The photos on this page were taken during "Group Photoshoot of the Team" Day. Each troop, division, or unit was encouraged to choose a theme and pose for a group photo.

















Safe and Fuee: CLASS - 25



By Dr. Mark Pottorff (Q/PIED)

ith rain in the forecast, the graduation ceremony for the 123rd Recruit Class, held on June 18, 2025, was moved from the Capitol lawn to the Academy gymnasium. Despite the change in venue, family and friends filled the gym to watch their loved ones take the oath as Missouri State Highway Patrol troopers.

Pastor Jeremy Hostettler, of Weaubleau First Baptist Church, offered the invocation. The Troop F Color Guard then presented the colors, followed by Sergeant Andrew A. Henry (H) performing the National Anthem. Captain Joseph L. Armistead (Q/

TND) introduced the dignitaries on the dais, including members of the Colonel's staff, troop captains, and Academy instructors.

Missouri Attorney General, the Honorable Andrew Bailey, delivered the keynote address, thanking the Academy staff "for training the best of the best in the state of Missouri." He praised the instructors as "stewards of a legacy of excellence." Attorney General Bailey commended the new troopers for answering the call and for their courage and commitment to keeping Missourians safe.

He reminded the families that they will face "long nights with your trooper on patrol, concerned about their safety and well-being... but your love and support are what make the completion of their mission possible."

Attorney General Bailey spoke about the Patrol's eight core values and emphasized that the new troopers "will need all of these principles as you embark upon your job." He addressed the difficulties they would face, both on the road and in the courtroom, reminding them, "When the citizens are having their very worst days, you are called upon to have your

very best. And I am confident, with the training you have received, you are up to the challenge. You will become the very embodiment of those core values."

He concluded by assuring the graduates of his support for public safety: "You're the individuals, the troopers of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, who put your lives on the line every day to keep the rest of us safe. You have our unyielding gratitude for your bravery, your heroism, your dedication to duty, and your embodiment of those core values."

Captain Armistead introduced the Honorable Kelly Broniec, of the Supreme Court of Missouri, who administered the Oath of Office. All 28 members of the 123rd Recruit Class swore to "support the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Missouri." Dr. Keith Zoromski, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Mineral Area College, then conferred Associate of Applied Science degrees on 16 class members-a tradition begun in 1971 by Colonel E.I. "Mike" Hockaday.

Colonel Michael A. Turner and Attorney General Bailey then presented commissions to the class members. Following long-standing tradition, three recruits received their commissions from immediate family members who are active or retired Patrol employees:

Trooper Jacob V. Dillon was commissioned by his father, Sergeant Adam V. Dillon (A).

Trooper Eric M. Sigman was commissioned by his father, retired Corporal Darren E. Sigman (H).

Trooper Jaclyn P. Wilder received hers from both of her parents-Captain Danielle E. Heil (Q/RCOD) and Corporal Chad A. Heil (Q/TND)-marking the first time the child of two active Patrol members graduated from the Academy.

Colonel Turner then took the podium to deliver his first graduation address since being appointed colonel in February. He told the class, "We are very proud of your hard work and your accomplishment. However, as has already been said, most of you didn't get here on your own. Somewhere along the line, loved ones and family members supported you and provided the foundation necessary to succeed in this training environmentand they deserve thanks."

He emphasized the continued importance of family support as they begin their careers: "That support doesn't stop." He noted that his own parents were there to support him in his first graduation address.

He reflected on the hiring process, saying, "When you started in January, we knew a lot about you. But what we didn't know then was who you really are when no one is watching—and whether or not you have what it takes." He reminded the class that many who began this journey with them were no longer there: "They didn't have what it takes to become a Missouri State Trooper."

"Today," Col. Turner said, "we know who you are. And in a few minutes, 28

"... For every challenge, there will be moments of profound reward." Col. Michael Turner

of you will join the ranks of a very select group. Being a Missouri State Trooper is not going to be easy." He warned of the stress and challenges to come: "You will face tremendous danger, heartache, and loss. You will have to rely on your training, your instincts, and your support network to navigate these challenges. But for every challenge, there will be moments of profound reward."

He closed by congratulating the graduates and their families: "I am very proud of every one of you. Go out and do your job with pride. Represent this agency with excellence and distinction. We are the Missouri State Highway Patrol."

During their time at the Academy, each recruit class competes for four awards: the Physical Training Award, the Firearms Award, the Academic Award, and the Superintendent's Award. For the 123rd Recruit Class:

- Trooper Benjamin W. Dillon won both the Physical Training Award and the Firearms Award.
- Trooper Rothman Harris III won the Academic Award.
- Trooper Jared Q. Hummel received the Superintendent's Award, which, beginning with this class, has been officially renamed the Colonel C.E. "Mel" Fisher Award.

Each recruit class also elects three class officers. For the 123rd Recruit Class, those officers were:

- Trooper Charles C. Swederska, Chaplain
- Trooper Daniel D. Mullins, Vice Commander
- Trooper Dallas T. Waller, Commander

Trooper Waller addressed the class and quests, thanking everyone for "being here on this defining day." He told his classmates, "Twenty-five weeks ago, we stood on these Academy grounds as individualsunproven and unsure-but all drawn here by something deeper than just a job." That "something" was a calling, "a commitment to serve something greater than ourselves."

He said the Academy taught them that "courage is not the absence of fear, but the refusal to be paralyzed by it ... leadership is not about being the loudest voice, but about being the one willing to shoulder the heaviest weight ... and honor is not something worn on a badge, but lived out in every decision, every traffic stop, and every time we choose what is right over what is easy."

He concluded, "We arrived here as recruits, and we leave here as guardians of public trust. Remember, the uniform we wear is not a symbol of powerit's a symbol of humility, of restraint, of accountability, and of sacrifice."

Congratulations to the Patrol's 28 newest troopers: the 123rd Recruit Class!





hen the members of the 123rd Recruit Class took their Oaths of Office in June, Trooper Jaclyn P. Wilder -alongside her parents-made history. Tpr. Wilder is the first recruit whose parents are both currently active members of the Patrol to complete the Academy. Captain Danielle E. Heil (Q/RCOD) and Corporal Chad A. Heil (Q/TND) stood proudly with Colonel Michael A. Turner to present Tpr. Wilder with her commission. I had the opportunity to speak with Tpr. Wilder and her parents about this momentous occasion.

Capt. Heil began her career with the Patrol on July 1, 1997, serving in Troops E and D. She served as a DDCC narcotics investigator and as the lieutenant of DDCC's District 2. She is now the captain of the Recruiting and Community Outreach Division. Cpl. Heil joined the Patrol in January 2006, serving his first assignment in Troop D. In September 2022, he transferred to the Academy as an instructor.

I asked the Heils if they had encouraged their children to pursue careers in law enforcement. Capt. Heil said she "always encouraged the girls (they have three) to go after their dreams." Cpl. Heil, however, admitted he didn't encourage a law enforcement path. He wanted Jaclyn "to be a doctor or lawyer." Once Tpr. Wilder made the decision to attend the Academy though, Capt. Heil said, "Chad and I both supported her and got busy getting her prepared for the Academy." Cpl. Heil concurred that once Jaclyn decided to join the Patrol, "I knew she had made her mind up, and there was nothing I could do to discourage her."

Since Cpl. Heil is an instructor at the Patrol's Academy and served as his daughter's instructor, I asked him if her presence with this class affected how he approached teaching this class. He said her presence did affect his approach to teaching and made him evaluate how they do everything at the Academy. His ultimate conclusion? "I am 100% confident in the training the

other instructors and I provide these recruits to prepare them to handle this job."

Tpr. Wilder went to nursing school after high school, and while in nursing school, "I got a job working at the Patrol's Radio Shop (Communications Division) as a clerk in November of 2024. I then started the selection process for the Patrol." While that may seem like a major shift in direction, she explained, "I have always wanted to be a trooper. With my parents being Missouri State Highway Patrol officers, I always looked up to them. They showed professionalism in their everyday lives. I grew up watching them serve with honor, discipline, and courage,"

Having her father as an instructor was a challenge for Tpr. Wilder. She explained, "We had to navigate through the instructor/recruit roles. On the weekends my father had to be just my father. We agreed to leave work life at the Academy."

With two active member parents, Tpr. Wilder has joined the Patrol with her eyes wide open; "From a young age, I understood the sacrifice and responsibility that come with wearing this uniform—and I wanted to be a part of it." Her goal as a member of the Patrol is to "one day become a criminal investigator with DDCC. I have always been interested in investigating serious crimes. I want to solve complex cases."

Captain Heil concluded, "Jaclyn has always been hardworking and motivated. Watching her walk across that stage at graduation was one of the most special moments of my life. I could not be prouder of her and the way she dedicated herself to accomplish her goal. She will make a great addition to the Troop F team."

Congratulations to Trooper Wilder, and to Mom and Dad!

CARLOCK AND APEL NAMED

DPS Non-Sworn Members of the Month



(above) Program Manager Clara Apel poses with her certificate. (below) DPS Director Mark James presents Program Supervisor Elisha M. Carlock with her award.

WOODS AND SEYMORE AWARDED FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

By Sergeant Bradley R. Germann (Q/DDCC)

n Thursday, May 15, 2025, the Eastern District U.S. Attorney's Office hosted the 2024 Law Enforcement Awards in St. Louis. Division of Drug and Crime Control (DDCC) investigators Corporal Andrew (Andy) L. Woods and Corporal Barton (Bart) M. Seymore received the Eastern District's Distinguished Service Award for their involvement in the case of United States v. Timothy Noll.

The case involved a conspiracy to smuggle drugs into the St. Francois County Jail, resulting in the death of an inmate. The Missouri State Highway Patrol conducted two parallel investigations, both leading to felony charges.

The investigation began in 2021 when the St. Francois County Sheriff requested that DDCC investigate the death of an inmate who was found unresponsive in his cell. During their search, investigators found a bag containing methamphetamine residue and a Bible with a detached spine. Interviews with inmates revealed that the victim's cellmate, Timothy Noll, had arranged for drugs to be smuggled into the jail before his transfer to another

facility. The autopsy revealed the inmate died from "mixed drug intoxication—including a lethal amount of fentanyl."

MSHP also launched a parallel investigation into reports of drug smuggling at the jail. During interviews, an inmate said he overheard Noll using the jail's communication system to facilitate the operation. Witnesses explained that Noll used an altered Bible to hide the contraband, which ultimately contributed to the inmate's death. Investigators identified the primary drug mule responsible for transporting the narcotics from the original source.

Cpl. Woods oversaw the initial phase of the investigation and identified the roles played by Noll and others. Cpl. Seymore referred the case for federal prosecution and served as the lead case agent. Both investigators also helped secure proffers from two cooperating witnesses who agreed to assist in the prosecution.

The investigation led to both state and federal charges. Due to the efforts of Corporals Seymore and Woods, Noll was sentenced to 22 years in federal prison. Two others were also sentenced for their roles in the crime.

Numerous DDCC command staff and personnel attended the awards ceremony. Sergeant Eric T. Bartel stated, "Every investigation presents unique hurdles, and this case was no different. Thankfully, Corporals Seymore and Woods work well as a cohesive team and have brought many cases to a successful conclusion. They are quietly driven, endlessly dedicated, and always humble. They don't seek the spotlight, but their work lights the way for everyone else."

Sergeant Jeffery (Jeff) D. Johnson added, "I haven't supervised Corporal Andy Woods for long, but it's quickly become clear that he's a dedicated and highly skilled investigator whose work ethic is second to none. His outstanding performance during the in-custody narcotics death investigation-which earned him the Distinguished Service Award from the U.S. Attorney's Officeis a testament to his commitment to excellence. Andy's positive attitude and leadership by example greatly contribute to the professionalism of our unit. He sets a high standard for his peers and is a valuable asset to our team. We are fortunate to have him."





TROOP C ASSISTS COMMUNITY AFTER EF3 TORNADO STRIKES

By Corporal Dallas R. Thompson (C)

2025 has been a difficult year for Missouri due to tornadoes and severe storms, and Friday, May 16, was another day when powerful storms swept across much of the state, passing through Troop C and causing widespread damage.

In the days leading up to May 16, the National Weather Service issued warnings for a potential severe weather event across the state. That evening, storms and heavy rain began entering the Troop C region from southwest Missouri. Three tornado warnings were issued in Washington County, and one confirmed touchdown in the southern part of the county caused moderate damage. Fortunately, the tornado struck a rural, wooded area rather than a residential neighborhood.

The storm continued northeast toward St. Louis County and the city of St. Louis. As it reached the Central West End, a wide, rain-wrapped tornado formed and tore through the area—from Forest Park, through the Central West End, and into downtown—before lifting back into the sky.

The tornado caused severe damage and widespread power outages. Numerous homes and buildings were destroyed, and power lines and traffic lights were torn down.

After the tornado passed, Troop C personnel responded to assist with search and rescue efforts, as well as traffic control in the immediate aftermath. Because this is a heavily traveled part of St. Louis, the lack of electricity and functioning traffic signals posed a significant safety concern.

St. Louis Metropolitan Police Chief Robert Tracy requested assistance, and in true Highway Patrol fashion, troopers were immediately assigned to direct traffic and provide aid around the clock. From the night of the tornado and for the next two weeks, troopers continued to support the St. Louis Metropolitan Police until most electronic traffic control systems were restored and normal traffic flow resumed.

The Missouri State Highway Patrol takes great pride in serving the citizens of Missouri during all circumstances. Strong communication and collaboration with partner agencies help ensure we meet the high standards expected of us. We value our partnership with the City of St. Louis and hope its citizens know we are here to serve and help keep their community safe.

(1) bituaries

LEO EDWARD MCELRATH III

Leo Edward McElrath III passed away on May 8, 2025, at the age of 76.

He was born on January 23, 1949, in St. Louis, MO, raised in Fredericktown, MO, and graduated from high school there in 1967. Leo joined the U.S. Army in 1967 and served as a missile crewman. He later served as a sergeant with the Missouri

State Highway Patrol from 1972 until 1999. He also

worked at the Bollinger County Sheriff's Office as a deputy and then as sheriff until 2012.

Leo is survived by his wife, Carolyn; one grandson; and one great-grandson. To learn more about Leo, visit the Ford & Liley Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the McElrath family.



Randal Lee Bess was born on May 26, 1943, in Avert, MO, and passed away on May 13, 2025, at his residence in Dexter, MO, at the age of 81.

Mr. Bess served with the Missouri State Highway Patrol from 1965 until 2000. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Judith Ann Adams Bess; three children;

seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. To learn more about Randal, visit the Mathis Funeral Home website.

The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Bess family.

Donald Wilson

Randal Bess

Leo McElrath III

DONALD LAWRENCE WILSON

Donald Lawrence Wilson passed away on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at The Haven Assisted Living Center in Hurricane, UT, at the age of 89. Don was born on August 24, 1935, in Johnson County, KS. After graduating from Salisbury High School in May 1953, he joined the U.S. Navy and trained as an

electronics technician, where he served until 1956.

Don was a member of the 27th Recruit Class, graduating from the Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy on June 1, 1964. He retired as a supervising sergeant in the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program in 1990.

He is survived by one daughter, one son, four grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Wilson family.



Bud Cooper Jr.

WILLIAM "BUD" T. COOPER JR.

William "Bud" T. Cooper Jr. passed away on May 26, 2025, at the age of 60, at his home in New Madrid, MO.

He was born on March 31, 1965, in Jonesboro, AR, Bud began his law enforcement career in 1988. He graduated from

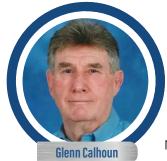
SEMO with a Bachelor of Science in

Criminal Justice.

Retired Sergeant Cooper served with the Missouri State Highway Patrol for 29 years. He helped form the SEMO Major Case Squad in 2002 and served as both commander and board member for 17 years. He also served as the New Madrid County Sheriff from 2020 until 2024.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine; two sons; three stepsons; two grandchildren; and two brothers.

To learn more about Bud, visit the Richards Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Cooper family.



Glenn L. Calhoun, 95, passed away on July 4, 2025, at Abundant Care in Savannah, MO.

GLENN L. CALHOUN

He was born on May 20, 1930, and graduated from NKC High School in 1948.

Glenn served in the U.S. Navy

from July 9, 1948, to July 7, 1952. After retiring from the Navy, he worked at Ford Motors and General Motors until 1956. He joined the NKC Police Department in May 1956, serving until June 1961. He then joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol in July 1961 and was stationed in Chillicothe, MO. He later served the Cameron and St. Joseph areas. He retired in June 1990.

Glenn is survived by one daughter; two stepdaughters; one stepson; one grandson; six stepgrandchildren; three great-grandchildren; 15 step-greatgrandchildren; and five step-great-great-grandchildren. To learn more about Glenn, visit the Meierhoffer Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Calhoun family.



TERI LYNN REED

Teri Lynn Reed, 66, of Piedmont, MO, passed away on Monday, May 26, 2025, at Clark's Mountain Nursing Center in Piedmont.

She was born on June 15, 1958, in Franklin, IN, raised in northeastern Missouri, and graduated from Bowling Green

High School. Teri served as a radio operator and dispatcher in Bollinger, Marion, and Shelby counties before joining the Missouri State Highway Patrol at Troop B, where she worked until her retirement.

She is survived by her husband, George M. Reed; her loving children and grandchildren; one sister; and one brother. To learn more about Teri, visit the Ruegg Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Reed family.



RONALD WAYNE JONES

Ronald Wayne Jones of Jackson, MO, passed away on July 6, 2025, at the age of 90.

He was born on October 10, 1934, in Cape Girardeau, MO, and graduated from Jackson High School in 1952. Ron served in the U.S. Army from May 8, 1957, until April 30, 1963. In 1966, he joined the Missouri

State Highway Patrol, retiring as a sergeant in 1992. He spent his entire Patrol career in Troop E, living in Poplar Bluff, MO. He attended the FBI National Academy in 1983.

Ron is survived by his wife, Jo Anna Hahs Jones; one daughter; one grandson; two great-grandsons; two step-granddaughters; and three step-great-grandchildren. To learn more about Ron, visit the Ford & Sons Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Jones family.



MARY ANN KUHN

Mary Ann Kuhn, 80, of Grain Valley, MO, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on Wednesday, June 25, 2025.

She was born on March 9, 1945, in Victoria, KS. Mary Ann retired in 2011 from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Troop A. Her greatest joy was her

family, and she cherished her role as Mom and Grandma.

She is survived by her daughters, grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, two brothers, four sisters, and many nieces and nephews. To learn more about Mary Ann, visit the Royer Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Kuhn family.



MARTHA JEAN SIMS

Martha Jean Sims, 80, of Pottersville, MO, passed away on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at her home. She was born on December 5, 1944, in Bakersfield, MO, and graduated from Bakersfield High School in 1962. Martha retired from the Missouri State Highway Patrol in 2014, where she served as a

driver examiner.

She was a member of the Love Thy Neighbor Homemaker Extension Club and the Crider Church of Christ.

She is survived by three children, four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren (with one on the way), one brother, and numerous nieces and nephews. To learn more about Martha, visit the Robertson-Drago Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Sims family.



JAMES LAWRENCE "LARRY" WILLINGHAM

James Lawrence "Larry" Willingham passed away peacefully on July 2, 2025.

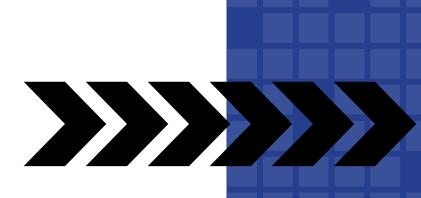
Larry began his career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol at age 19, even though the

minimum hiring age was 21. He was hired early due to his skill in Morse code.

During his 39-year career, Larry served as a radio operator, an instructor at the Patrol Academy, and later as chief radio operator. He was dedicated to his work and left a lasting legacy. His career continues through his son-in-law, Justin Parks, who now follows in his footsteps.

To learn more about Larry, visit the Hutton & McElwain Funeral Home website. The Patrol extends its sincerest condolences to the Willingham family.





TROOP F COMMUNITY **ALLIANCE**

By Sergeant Kyle A. Green (F)

roop F held its second annual combined Community and Student Alliance Program on May 10, 2025, in Jefferson City. The event welcomed 20 participants from across Missouri to explore various divisions of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

The morning began with a history of the Patrol's founding in 1931, followed by a discussion of the challenges troopers face in modern-day policing. The Colonel Alvin R. Lubker Memorial Safety and Education Center offered a chance to look back in time at vintage patrol cars and equipment. Seeing these items gave participants a deeper appreciation for the simple conveniences we enjoy today-like air conditioning, GPS, and modern safety gear.

Troopers often face life-and-death situations where the time to react may be only a fraction of a second. To better understand the complexity of these splitsecond decisions, participants engaged in scenario-based training using the Multiple Interactive Learning Objectives (MILO) system. Was it a gun or a cell phone the subject pulled out? Did your shot hit the target-or an innocent bystander? Each participant left with a greater appreciation for how complex the world of law enforcement can be.

Trooper Aaron A. Lindley (F) showcased several drones he operates as a drone pilot to assist the SWAT team or search for missing persons. He conducted a demonstration to highlight their capabilities and how drone technology is shaping the future of officer safetyreducing the need to place troopers in harm's way.





HOSTS **STUDENT PROGRAM**





Sergeant Nolan A. Bax (F), with K-9 Emilka, and Corporal Emilio J. Villanueva (F), with K-9 Len, spoke to participants about the important role canines play in law enforcement. As always, the pups were among the most anticipated highlights of the program—and they did not disappoint!

After lunch, participants heard from Communications Operator Michanne E. Mattson (F), Sergeant Bradley R. Germann (Q/DDCC), and Forensic Scientist Stacy J. Brown (Q/CLD).

The program concluded at the **Emergency Vehicle Operations Course** (EVOC), where participants experienced the high-speed driving skills of Sergeant Bryan H. Salmons (F) and Trooper Dustin H. Crafton (F). Every rider instinctively searched for a brake pedal on the passenger side—none found one.

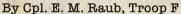
In addition to the ride-along, participants explored one of our helicopters, the SWAT BearCat armored vehicle, a Lake of the Ozarks patrol boat, a motorcycle, Bomb Squad equipment, and-last but not least-the new and old Ford Mustangs.

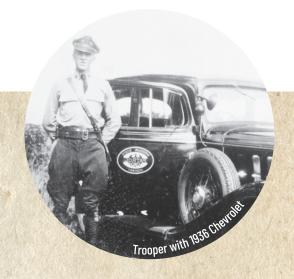
The event was a tremendous success, and Troop F Captain Jason N. Crites extends his sincere thanks to everyone who made it possible.

PATROL HISTORY | RIVE

Originally Printed July, 1984







New uniforms being received by members of the Patrol are now received without a Red Cross first aid patch on them. Apparently, the patch is being phased out, and no suitable replacement is available.

The patch has been worn by members since the original Red Cross first-aid training was given to members in 1936. Some members wore the patch briefly on the left sleeve just above the elbow, but within a short time, it was displayed on the forearm of the right sleeve, where it has remained ever since.

Following the original first-aid training, most patrol cars displayed a miniature Red Cross license plate. The plate was about one-fourth the size of a standard license plate, and was attached just above the official Patrol license plate. It bore the symbol of the Red Cross and read, "Emergency First Aid - American Red Cross." Photos of patrol cars from 1937 to 1939 will usually show the small plate being displayed, but unless you know what it is, it's often too small to recognize.

For many years, Patrol officers carried light green "First Aid Report" forms in their commission books, and gave a brief, but detailed report of first aid rendered in line of duty. Currently, the only report of first aid given is to show the number of persons aided on the Officers' Daily Report.

TROOPER GOANS NAMED MAY 2025 **SWORN TEAM MEMBER OF THE MONTH**

By Dr. Mark Pottorff (Q/PIED)

The Missouri Department of Public Safety recognized Trooper Eric A. Goans (Q/DDCC) as the May Sworn Team Member of the Month for 2025. In May of 2024, Trooper Goans stopped a vehicle traveling 99 miles per hour on I-44 in Laclede County. He observed several clues that led him to investigate further; these clues included a handgun, the driver's nervous demeanor, and her vague answers to his questions. He asked her to accompany him to his patrol vehicle for further questions. At that point, she told him that she was convinced the CIA had assassinated her husband and the government was hunting her. She expressed the desire to kill the people that were "waging a war" on her life.

A consent search of her vehicle revealed a semi-automatic rifle, loaded magazines for the rifle and the handgun, a trauma first aid kit, medical supplies, and a supply of food that could last a person two or three days. Goans arrested the driver and placed her on a 24-hour hold. Later, she was charged with making terroristic threats.

Missouri Department of Public Safety Director Mark S. James presented Tpr. Goans with his certificate during a ceremony at the Missouri State Highway Patrol General Headquarters, in Jefferson City, MO, in June. Colonel Michael A. Turner congratulated Tpr. Goans and said, "Trooper Goans used his investigative skills to stop a dangerous person from potentially harming others. There is nothing 'routine' about a vehicle stop. His attentiveness likely saved multiple lives."





Trooper David Craig receives his award from DPS Director Mark James.

TROOPER CRAIG NAMED JUNE 2025 DPS SWORN TEAM MEMBER OF THE MONTH

By Dr. Mark Pottorff (Q/PIED)

Trooper David T. Craig (A) was named the Missouri Department of Public Safety's Sworn Team Member of the Month for June 2025, in recognition of his dedicated efforts to remove drunk and impaired drivers from Missouri's roadways and protect lives in the process.

After joining the Patrol as part of the 110th Recruit Class, Tpr. Craig quickly gained recognition as a leader in Troop A. In 2024, he set a Patrol record by arresting 185 intoxicated drivers-the most DWI arrests by any trooper in the Patrol's 94-year history. Tpr. Craig's relentless pursuit of impaired drivers also earned him a 2024 award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

Although arresting impaired drivers involves substantial paperwork, Tpr. Craig doesn't let that slow him down. In fact,

he also led the Patrol in overall arrests in 2024, with a total of 837. He continues to submit error-free reports that provide detailed accounts of both his actions and those of the offenders.

In the nomination for this award, he is described as "a model of hard work and efficiency, driven by a desire to make Missouri's highways safer."

Missouri Department of Public Safety Director Mark S. James presented the award, and Colonel Michael A. Turner congratulated Tpr. Craig on his outstanding work, stating, "Trooper Craig's passion for removing intoxicated drivers from the road has saved countless lives. We may never know exactly how many, because he has prevented those crashes from ever happening."

53RD AMERICAN LEGION CADET PATROL ACADEMY GRADUATES By Dr. Mark Pottorff (Q/PIED)

small group of family and friends gathered in the Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy gymnasium, where they were welcomed by Captain Joseph L. Armistead (Q/TND) on June 13, 2025, to celebrate 20 graduates of the 53rd Annual American Legion Cadet Patrol Academy.

Capt. Armistead said, "Trooper Ayers, present the class for graduation," and the class marched in. Cadet Ethan Stout, the class chaplain, presented the invocation, and Sergeant Andrew A. Henry (H) sang the national anthem.

Capt. Armistead explained that the Cadet Academy began in 1971 as a collaboration between the American Legion Department of Missouri and the Missouri State Highway Patrol. The original and continued intent of the Cadet Academy is "to provide firsthand experience for future leaders who may be interested in a law enforcement or military career, and to develop an understanding of the role law enforcement officers and military members play in maintaining the freedoms that we cherish as Americans." Since the Academy's start, 114 graduates have gone on to be troopers with the Patrol.

Lieutenant Colonel David A. Flannigan (Q/ASO) spoke to the graduates, emphasizing the choice they made in coming to the Cadet Academy. "It shows your interest in being committed to something that is bigger than you are." He spoke of the great career choices the cadets can have if they choose a career with the Highway Patrol as a trooper or in one of the many non-sworn careers. He said, "Only half of our agency is comprised of troopers. The other half is non-sworn employees ... who are dedicated to doing what they can to positively impact public safety in Missouri." Lt. Col. Flannigan concluded his remarks by reminding the cadets that "kindness is free and there is an unlimited supply of it. Be generous with your kindness to others as you go through life."

John Buckwalter, the State of Missouri Commander of the American Legion, provided the keynote address. He congratulated the parents and the cadets for completing the Cadet Academy and told the cadets, "Your completion of this week shows that you have or will develop the traits of the mentors and leaders you've worked with and learned from this week." He finished by telling the cadets, "I hope this week has helped you shape your future plans ... your future is exactly what you make it."

Each cadet received a certificate of completion and a challenge coin from Lt. Col. Flannigan in recognition of their hard work. Four awards were also presented: one each to the male and female cadets with the highest score in physical fitness, one for the highest score in firearms, and one for the highest overall performance by a cadet. Additionally, the American Legion presented a one-time \$500 scholarship to a cadet with an interest in entering the criminal justice field.

Class Commander Ryan Whitlock then addressed the crowd, expressing the honor he felt in speaking on behalf of the 53rd Cadet Academy. He thanked the American Legion for the opportunity and the "chance to step into something bigger than ourselves, to challenge our limits, and to grow as leaders." He also thanked the Highway Patrol for "providing us with an experience we won't soon forget." Mr. Whitlock reminded the cadets that although they came from all around the state and did not know each other, they shared the "courage to step into something unknown and the drive to better ourselves." He concluded his remarks by reminding the cadets to remember the week they spent at the Academy, the pride they felt in their uniforms, the pride of being part of a team, and to remember "the commitment you made to becoming your best self. Let this be the beginning of your journey."

Congratulations to the members of the 53rd American Legion Cadet Academy!



DE Richard Dixson (A) - Granddaughter

CDL Supervisor Kimberly A. Clements (C) - Father-in-Law

Ret. DE Renee S. Gentry - Husband

Sgt. T. Eddie Young (G) - Mother

Ret. Sgt. Ray L. Stufflebean - Wife

Ret. Sgt. Donald L. Schmitz - Father

Ret. DE Sprv. Carl W. Kagle - Daughter

Assistant Director Richard L. Hargrove (Q/DVSD) - Mother

Comm. Op. Caitlin M. Gill (I) - Mother

Cpl. Braiden D. Vaught (D) - Grandfather

CVO Joseph T. Garland (D) - Mother-in-Law

DE Mariah J. Brown (H) - Father

Sgt. Steven Neal Foster (G) - Stepfather

Ret. Buyer II Pamela S. Haslag - Mother

Cpl. Jeffrey A. Ice (Q/GSD) - Stepdaughter

Lt. Gregory A. Dubois (I) - Father

Lead Admin. Supp. Asst. Jamie L. McKinnon (I) -

Grandfather-in-Law

Ret. DE Chief Cheryl S. Bardwell - Mother

Lt. Thomas R. Walley (Q/RDD) - Father

MSgt. Douglas M. McDaniel (E) - Father-in-Law

Tpr. Parrish M. Lutz (Q/GD) - Father

Ret. DE Sprv. Linda C. York - Husband

CVO Richard J. Wilcox (H) - Daughter

MSgt. Jeremy R. McCurdy (I) - Grandmother

Tpr. Alec W. Land (D) - Grandfather

Ret. Sgt. Rod Land - Father-in-Law

Ret. Lt. James P. Ripley - Mother

Ret. Capt. Ronald L. Walker - Mother

Asst. Chief Op. Justin K. Parks (B) - Father-in-Law

Sgt. Mark B. Richardson (H) - Grandson

Comm. Op. I Amber R. Richardson (H) - Grandson

DE Spvr. James W. Little (C) - Sister

Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. Jeffrey L. Hutchison (I) - Brother



55 YEARS AGO

JULY 1970

The cover of the July 1970 Patrol News featured a memorial to Trooper William R. Brandt, who was killed in the line of duty on June 12, 1970. One article featured a photo of Mrs. Janet Jenkins accepting the "Distinguished Service Award" on behalf of her husband, Trooper Jesse Roger Jenkins, who was killed in the line of duty on October 14, 1969.

45 YEARS AGO

AUGUST 1980

The August 1980 Patrol News featured "Operation S.T.E.P." (Statewide Traffic Enforcement Program) on the front cover. The Patrol implemented the program "in an effort to reduce the increasing traffic carnage on the state's highways." The first seven months of 1980 had seen 20 more traffic fatalities compared to the same time period in 1979.

35 YEARS AGO

AUGUST 1990

An article in the August 1990 Patrol News highlighted the work of Gerry Andres and Sammy Brizendine of the Motor Equipment Division. The two built a rollover simulator, "nearly from scratch." The simulator featured a 1989 S-10 and was funded by the Missouri Coalition for Safety Belt Use. The coalition also paid for the trailer used to transport the simulator.

25 YEARS AGO

JULY 2000

The July 2000 Patrol News featured an article highlighting the excellent work by Trooper Mory McKnight in intercepting 19 kilos of cocaine. During a routine traffic stop of a vehicle for changing lanes without proper signaling, Tpr. McKnight suspected something was wrong when he received conflicting reports from the driver and his daughter about who owned the car and where they were going. K-9 Enik alerted to the dash of the vehicle, and Tpr. McKnight's search revealed a hidden compartment behind the glove box.

15 YEARS AGO

JULY/AUGUST 2010

The July/August 2010 edition of the *Patrol News* featured an article about the "Missouri Variation," a Smith & Wesson .38 revolver made specifically for the MSHP in 1952 and 1953. The gun featured a five-inch tapered barrel and other modifications special only to it. Only 365 of the "Missouri Variation" were made for the Patrol, which had a force of less than 300 at the time. (On a side note, the Colonel Alvin R. Lubker Memorial and Safety and Education Center—the Patrol museum—has one of these guns on display."

FOUR-WEEK MARINE ENFORCEMENT COURSE

Officers completed the Officer Survival Swim Course while wearing full uniforms and weighted belts. The training included swimming laps, navigating an in-water obstacle course, and practicing escape and evade techniques.



Top row: Instructor Corporal Tye W. DeCramer (Q/TND), Trooper Kyle L. Hogan (G), Trooper Kenneth H. Hall (G), Corporal Marcus L. Schlief (E), Trooper Austin L. Royster (D), Trooper Caleb L. Hirner (F), Trooper TJ A. Willock (B), and Instructor Corporal Tyler W. O'Brien (F) Bottom row: Trooper Kage W. Etherton (D), Trooper Collin J. Nichols (F), Trooper William M. Henderson (A), Trooper Douglas J. Jackson (D)



By Sergeant Shane M. Hux (H)

n Sunday, June 22, 2025, Troop H employees and their families gathered at Ricky Dean's in St. Joseph for a day filled with fun activities and fellowship. Thoughtfully organized by Lieutenant Travis L. Williams (H), the event gave employees a chance to relax, connect, and enjoy quality time with their families and coworkers outside of the workplace.

A wide range of activities ensured everyone had something to enjoy—from bumper boats and virtual reality games for children to batting cages, pickleball, and glow-in-the-dark miniature golf for all ages.

The day also gave coworkers a chance to meet each other's families, put faces to names, and strengthen bonds within the troop.

Gatherings like this highlight the importance of teamwork and camaraderie, reinforcing the idea that the Patrol is not just an organization—it's a family. The success of Family Fun Day reflects Troop H's strong sense of community and the dedication of those who made the event possible.



Lieutenant Travis Williams' wife, Marlie, and Sergeant Andy Henry struck a pose like pros.



Move over, Marine Division - Corporal Vince Wiley's got the bumper fleet under control!



Attendees of the Troop H Family Fun Day gather for a group photo.

MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL **General Headquarters** P.O. Box 568 1510 E. Elm St. Jefferson City, MO 65102-0568



Members of a St. Louis Model A club visited the Patrol museum on July 12.



@MSHPTrooperGHQ @MSHPTrooperA @MSHPTrooperB

 $@\mathsf{MSHPT} rooper\mathsf{C}$ @MSHPTrooperD @MSHPTrooperF @MSHPTrooperG

@MSHPTrooperl @MSHPTrooperDDCC @MSHPRecruiting

@MSHP_DVSD

@MSHP_CVE @MSHPTrooperE @MSHPTrooperH @MSHPColonel @MSHPCrimeLab