

PATROL NEWS

September/October 2015

"Over 80 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"



Trooper James M. Bava
October 23, 1989 — August 28, 2015

Cover details on page 3.

Superintendent's Message



Colonel J. Bret Johnson

As I write this, it has been a sad and tragic time for law enforcement around our nation. In particular, for state police and highway patrol agencies in Louisiana, Michigan, and Missouri, and also for local departments in Illinois and Texas.

Every day, troopers, law enforcement officers, public officials, support organizations, firefighters, EMS, MoDOT, towing and recovery operators, and citizens from around our state and nation do what they do best. They serve and support someone in need. During the visitation and funeral services for Trooper Bava, when we needed them, they served and supported the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Hundreds paid their respects to one of Missouri's finest, Trooper James M. Bava, badge 162.

Words cannot express our agency's gratitude to all who attended these services. We were both moved and encouraged by the outpouring of public support and respect shown to us by the hundreds of citizens who lined the roadways from the church to the cemetery to honor Tpr. Bava and the profession he chose. The compassion, prayers, encouragement, support, and presence helped Tpr. Bava's family and our agency during this difficult time.

In the past several months, I have heard it said many times, "It's really a tough time being in law enforcement right now." Our profession has certainly been through some difficult times recently. But, my confidence and pride in our agency and in our profession have never wavered as we carry out our duties each day in a professional and unbiased manner.

The services for Tpr. Bava were another example of how the employees of our agency came together as a family and as a team to support each other. Tpr. Bava's family is so appreciative of all the respect, compassion, love, and support extended from those attending James' services.

Inside this issue you'll get to know Tpr. Bava if you hadn't met him previously. If you knew him personally, I hope the articles bring a smile and some comfort. In addition to the articles you'll find in this issue, a tribute video has been posted on the Patrol's website. I encourage each of you to take a few minutes and view it. Tpr. James M. Bava was a deeply faithful person who lived our core values each and every day of his life. But, even more importantly, he lived God's core values each and every day. Those who knew him are all better people because of him. Missouri is a safer place because of his service and his dedication.

Bret Johnson

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Missouri State Highway Patrol

PATROL NEWS

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PATROL NEWS

September/October 2015

"Over 80 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION"

Volume 50 • Number 2

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Take Me Out To The Ball Game!

The Troop A Color Guard presented the colors before the Kansas City Royals baseball game on June 20, 2015. (The Royals beat the Red Sox 7 to 4.) That day, the color guard included (l to r) Sergeant Erik L. Hurst, Sergeant Casey E.

Utterback, Trooper Matt J. Yoder, and Corporal Russ W. Shaul. The Troop A Color Guard appeared several times during the 2015 baseball season and scheduled presentations with the Kansas City Chiefs as well.



(Photo courtesy of KC Royals Security Chief Rich Welsh.)

Cover

Trooper James Matthew Bava, 25, of Mexico, MO, is the 31st trooper to make the ultimate sacrifice. He died in a traffic crash Friday, August 28, 2015. This issue honors his memory.

Meet the Staff

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

Retirements and promotions have created a new ensemble at General Headquarters. This ensemble, commonly known as the Patrol Command Staff, includes a new bureau, a new face, and some re-organization. Colonel J. Bret Johnson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, asked the Lt. Col. and each of the majors to reflect on their respective bureau assignments and provide some insight.



Lt. Col. Sandra K. Karsten
Assistant Superintendent

The assistant superintendent's office interacts daily with a wide array of people and entities, covering almost as many topics or issues. While this statement broadly describes the activities of the office, the work involves direct contacts with the Patrol's legal counsel, the Professional Standards Division, and, more recently, the Public Information and Education Division. Current plans to increase the Patrol's presence on different social media sites are being finalized; a responsibility that will fall under PIED. As this project unfolds, the public will be able to "follow" Patrol activities more closely. Our "tweets" and posts will remain accountable to the standards we strive to maintain throughout the organization. I encourage every employee to give careful consideration to their use of social media, both professionally and personally. We must remain ethical and legal.



Major Greg Smith
Field Operations Bureau

The Field Operations Bureau represents over 950 troopers and nearly 600 civilian personnel assigned to nine troops throughout the state. The Aircraft Division and Water Patrol Division are also assigned to the bureau. FOB has undertaken many different responsibilities and challenges in recent years. Some of which includes, SWAT, marine enforcement, K9, Major Crash Investigation Unit, Dive Team, criminal interdiction, motorcycle units and management of the Field Training and Evaluation Program.

The Field Operations Bureau will continue to stress the importance of promoting safety on our state's vast network of roadways and waterways. Directed enforcement campaigns such as DWI/BWI sobriety checkpoints, DWI/BWI saturations, the click-it-or-ticket initiative, Operation Dry Water, Operation C.A.R.E., and 20-Mile Trooper will remain a priority for all enforcement personnel. Maximizing visibility, participation in these critical programs, and daily enforcement efforts continue to have a direct impact on promoting safety and saving lives on roads and waterways.

In the coming months, FOB will be coordinating additional training opportunities for officers. Planned training includes field force operations and extrication (civil unrest courses), ARIDE training and techniques (Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving

Enforcement), and DIAP/EPIC Operation Pipeline/Convoy training (criminal interdiction). The Water Patrol Division will continue to provide a very demanding swift water rescue training course for officers.



Major Luke Vislay
Criminal Investigation Bureau

The MSHP provides criminal investigative assistance to virtually all of Missouri's Law enforcement agencies as well as many others throughout our nation. That service has not just been in the form of actual investigators responding to scenes or the forensic examination of crucial evidence in violent crimes. Patrol employees also provide necessary analytical support as well as on scene case management expertise that aids in putting many of Missouri's most violent criminals behind bars. I am proud to report that the men and women of this agency have a daily impact on the safety and welfare of the citizens of our great state. The colonel and his staff will remain committed to providing necessary assistance to our city, county, state, and federal law enforcement partners to ensure that Missouri is a safe place to live, work, and visit.

Continued on the next page.

— Staff

Continued from page 4.



Major Malik Henderson
Administrative Services Bureau

June 1, 2015, Colonel J. Bret Johnson created the Career Recruiting Division. This division has been placed within the Administrative Services Bureau. It joins the Human Resources, Research and Development, and Training divisions. Col. Johnson's vision for the Career Recruiting Division is to actively recruit qualified candidates for Patrol careers. The division is responsible for delivering career programs in all areas of the state in order to ensure that the Patrol maintains a workforce of qualified individuals who represent the diversity of the state of Missouri. The Career Recruitment Division will also be responsible for the administration of the Trooper Selection Process, Veteran's On-The-Job Training Program, Equal Employment Opportunity, and the Patrol College Student Internship Program.



Major Greg Kindle
Support Services Bureau

The Support Services Bureau will strive to further the mission of the Patrol by providing quality service to

Missouri citizens while conducting commercial vehicle inspections, driver examinations, and motor vehicle and school bus inspections. The bureau will provide technical assistance and advice to our members, other law enforcement agencies, and the general public. In addition, the Support Services Bureau will continue to procure and maintain a diverse fleet of law enforcement vehicles, and oversee the construction projects on our properties throughout the state. One specific goal we look forward to meeting is the completion of our new state-of-the-art vehicle maintenance facility.



Major Sarah L. Eberhard
Technical Services Bureau

As I continue to familiarize myself with the day-to-day operations of the three divisions which comprise the Technical Services Bureau, I am amazed at how advancements in technology are shaping the future of the Patrol and the other law enforcement agencies we serve and support. The Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Information and Communications Technology Division, and Patrol Records Division are heavily involved in program and technology enhancements. Upon completion, these technological enhancements will improve information sharing and overall Patrol services, not only for our own agency, but for all of our local, state, and federal law enforcement partners.

One of the Technical Services Bureau's priorities is to ensure the Patrol's network and connected criminal justice systems are secure from intrusion and breaches. We owe it to the law enforcement community, the public, and our personnel to make every effort to secure this sensitive information while

continuing to provide a high level of service. This priority corresponds to Col. Johnson's fourth policing strategy.

As the Technical Services Bureau commander, I will encourage and promote a working atmosphere focused on service, efficiency, accountability, and personnel development. Col. Johnson and his command staff will continue to actively monitor and analyze operations to determine if there is a need for more efficient use of resources.



Major Kemp Shoun
Executive Services Bureau

In the July/August 2015 Patrol News, I wrote about the newly created Executive Services Bureau. To recap, "The success of the Executive Services Bureau will be centered around the colonel's strategy of sound departmental management through building partnerships. We must continue to build working relationships with other state agencies, other law enforcement agencies, our elected officials, community groups, and those within our own agency. Only by working together, can we advance the efforts and needs of the Patrol and law enforcement in general."

Pre-filing for the 2016 Legislative Session begins December 1, 2015. We expect it to be a busy session, as we have already received petitions requesting fiscal impact on various topics. Thank you in advance to everyone who will respond to the many bills.

Thanks to each of you for doing your jobs so well each day. When you make those individual, extra efforts to help others, you support and enhance the reputation of the Patrol. It's your continued dependability to perform at an exceptional level that builds a partnership with the public and elected officials.

New Employees



David R. Caban
Prob. Comm. Oper.
Troop F



Jess L. Curtis
Clerk Typist III
Troop I



Amy M. Fly
Prob. Comm. Oper.
Troop D



Stephanie A. Follett
Prob. Comm. Oper.
Troop F



Kari D. Hayes
Personnel Analyst II
Q/HRD



Kelly M. Hilliard
Driver Examiner I
Troop H



Amy M. Hinds
Prob. Comm. Oper.
Troop D



Michael P. Horn
Cook I
Q/TND



Abby L. Howard
Prob. Comm. Oper.
Troop H



Nicole D. Johnson
Prob. Comm. Oper.
Troop D



Ronald E. Jones
Computer Info. Tech. III
Q/ICTD



Larry S. Newsom
Computer Info. Tech. I
Q/ICTD



Kalene M. Payne
Clerk Typist I
Troop C



Kyle W. Renick
Bldg. & Grounds
Maint. I
Q/FFD



Cierra J. Schroer
Clerk Typist I
Q/DDCC

New Employees

October

National Crime Prevention Month

- Oct. 2 ● Cpl. M.E. Webster died in 1993.
- Oct. 6 ● Sgt. R.G. Kimberling died in 1999.
- Oct. 12 ● Columbus Day
- Oct. 14 ● Tpr. J.R. Jenkins died in 1969.
- Oct. 15 ● Sgt. J.G. Schuengel died in 2010.
- Oct. 15 ● Class A uniform
- Oct. 19-25 ● National Teen Driver Safety Week
- Oct. 19-23 ● National School Bus Safety Week
- Oct. 27 ● Tpr. W.W. Allman died in 1955.



Jackie E. Stacy
Clerk Typist I
Troop C



Billy J. Weddington
DE I
Troop F

Troop H Hosts Area Law Enforcement Lunch

By Sgt. Gara N. Howard, Troop H

On June 10, Troop H hosted a luncheon for area law enforcement agencies. The police chiefs, sheriffs, and prosecuting attorneys working in the Troop H area were invited to lunch, given a tour of troop headquarters, and introduced to the zone supervisors, troop staff, and GHQ staff members. Over 100 people, representing 27 departments, attended. Attendees were given the opportunity to view marine operations boats, SWAT vehicles, and helicopter 93MP. Lieutenant Mike D. Hargus and Sergeant Brad D. Holman, both Q/AD, provided a presentation on their equipment, responsibilities, and capabilities. After lunch, 93MP gave some lucky participants a ride on the static line. The day provided a great opportunity for everyone to share some stories and laughs, and to build on the great working relationships we share. A big thanks to all the Troop H employees who helped with the preparation, cooking, and clean up.



Area officers and prosecuting attorneys visited Troop H to network. Here, they visit with Patrol pilots.



Visiting area law enforcement officers and prosecuting attorneys discussed SWAT operations with Patrol members.

Troop C Honors Myers

By Cpl. Juston Wheatley, Troop C

At 6:30 a.m. on March 23, 2015, a tractor-trailer loaded with hay was traveling northbound on Interstate 55 when its speed was reduced due to a steep incline. Mr. Kevin L. Wright, driving a second tractor-trailer, was overtaking a slower vehicle when he crested a hill and struck the rear of the first, slower moving tractor-trailer. The crash caused Mr. Wright's tractor-trailer to travel off the right side of the roadway, and the engine compartment of the tractor became engulfed in flames.

Mr. Dennis Muminovic was parked on the entrance ramp when he observed the tractor-trailers collide. Shortly after the collision, Mr. Jason P. Myers, who was traveling north on Interstate 55, approached the scene of the crash and observed the tractor-trailer on fire. Both Mr. Myers and

Mr. Muminovic rushed to the aid of the driver and were able to pull him from the burning wreckage. A short time after Mr. Wright was pulled from the truck, the fire spread to the trailer loaded with small arms ammunition. The shells started exploding, showering the area with shell casings, bullets, and shrapnel from the exploding cargo. If not for the swift, unselfish acts of Mr.

Pictured are Lt. Ron Miesner, Mr. Jason P. Myers, and Lt. Amy Reynolds.



Myers and Mr. Muminovic, Mr. Wright would likely have burned to death in his truck.

On Friday, August 14, 2015, Mr. Myers accepted the Honorary Trooper Certificate for his actions on March 23, 2015. The ceremony took place at the Troop C Service Center in Park Hills, MO. Lieutenant Amy E. Reynolds and Lieutenant Ron J. Miesner, both of Troop C, presented Mr. Myers with his Honorary Trooper Certificate.

(Editor's note: Mr. Muminovic was unable to attend the ceremony and will receive his Honorary Trooper certificate at a later time.)

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bekette Raye

Tpr. Brandon S. & Mrs. Brittney R. Pearson
Troop B

Bentlee Andrew

Tpr. Grant A. & Mrs. Shawna M. Ayres
Troop I

Ava Caroline

Tpr. W. Robert & Mrs. Becky E. Plumley
Troop F

Beau Timothy

Mr. Cody F & Criminalist I Abigayle R. Goeller
Q/CLD

Hadley Grace

DE Jeffrey A. & Mrs. Abby J. Hendrick
Troop E

Elizabeth

Tpr. Daniel J. & Mrs. Ashley M. Dalton
Troop E

Tucker S.

Tpr. Jerrick W. & Mrs. Kristen L. Myers
Troop E

Addilyn Rubyjo

Cpl. Ben J. & Mrs. Missey A. Blankenbeker
Troop F

Reese Aniston

Tpr. Kellen D. & Mrs. Ashley L. Rapier
Troop I

Drake Alexander

Tpr. Paul V. J. & Mrs. Gina R. Volkmer
Troop I

Olivia Lynn

Lt. Justin L. & Mrs. Stacy L. McCullough
Troop F

Ainsley Jo

Brenna Jo

Tpr. Chris A. & Mrs. Suzanna J. Kimes
Troop G

Luke Robert

Tpr. Rob L. & Mrs. Jennifer N. Stark
Troop I



Spotlight



Tpr. Tim C. Fick



Appointed: April 2, 2012.

First Assignment: Troop F, Zone 16, Marine Operations (Lake of the Ozarks).

Promotions/Reclassifications: Zone 5, Camden/Miller counties; Zone 18, Miller County.

Current Assignment: Troop F, Zone 18, Miller County.

Family: Tpr. Fick and his wife, Kristin, have one dog, Shiba, and one cat, Liesle. They also have seven chickens.

Interests: "I enjoy being married and working on our house together," said Tpr. Fick. "My hobbies are lifting weights, riding motorcycles, playing sports, and good food! I enjoy all outdoor activities and spending time with family and friends."

Tpr. Fick grew up in Rich Fountain, MO, and attended Catholic grade school at Sacred Heart. He attended church regularly at Sacred Heart Parish with his family. "I spent weeks at a time at my grandpa's farm learning from him and helping him with the farm. At age 13, our family switched churches and began attending a Baptist church in Jefferson City (Memorial Baptist Church)," said Tpr. Fick. "I was an active member of the church

and played in the praise and worship team, went on numerous mission trips, and served the community with the youth group."

Tpr. Fick attended high school at Fatima in Westphalia, MO. He describes himself as an average student who was never in trouble with the teachers. He played drums and bass guitar in the high school's band. "My senior year, I received the Louie Armstrong award in Jazz Band as well as an outstanding soloist award on the bass guitar." Tpr. Fick also wrestled during his freshman and sophomore years, and played baseball all four years of high school. "I was picked to participate in the all-star baseball team and traveled with the team competing against other all-star players near the end of my senior year."

After graduating from high school, Tpr. Fick began working for a factory building doors. He was promoted quickly to a supervisor and made head of the counter top facility. He decided that "factory work was not for me," and changed jobs to work for a construction company. "I worked there for four years and learned the trade. One day after a job, I walked into Troop F Headquarters and requested an application to become a trooper. I learned I needed some additional qualifications."

He attended the Law Enforcement Training institute in Columbia, MO, where he received an award for outstanding defensive tactics performance. Upon graduating, he went to work as a police officer in Linn, MO. After six months, he was asked by the Osage County sheriff if he wanted to work for the sheriff's department. Two weeks later he was hired and was scheduled to work as a transport jailer. "My first night of work, I was asked to fill a spot as the night car and began working the road," said Tpr. Fick. "After I had two years of experience, I went back to the Highway Patrol and put in an application. One year later, I was hired. I have worked in Camden

and Miller counties, and enjoy the unique challenges being a trooper in the Lake of the Ozarks area."

Comm. Oper. I Lacy J. Koncor



Appointed: January 16, 2013.

First/Current Assignment:

Communication Operator I, Troop F, Jefferson City.

Family: Lacy was born in Illinois, but grew up "out in the country in Monroe County." She graduated from Madison C-3 High School in 2001, and began her career in telecommunications in Monroe County in 2002. Her family still lives in the Troop B area; her parents and younger brother in Monroe County and her older sister's family in Shelby County. "I love to spend time with my sister's 8-year-old daughter and 5-year-old twin sons."

Interests: "I enjoy cooking and baking," said Lacy. "I often bring in baked goods to share with everyone at Troop F." She's "taken up" the hobbies of knitting and cross-stitching, and develops her own cross-stitch patterns. "I enjoy reading. My favorite genre is fantasy, but I also enjoy memoirs and novels," she said. "My favorite author is Augusten Burroughs."

Spotlight

Tpr. J. Michael Linegar



Appointed: January 8, 2006.

First Assignment: Troop C, Zone 11, Franklin County.

Current Assignment: Troop D, Zone 15, Stone and Taney counties.

Family: Tpr. Linegar and his wife, Erica, have two sons Ethan, 5, and Elliott, 2. Erica is a stay-at-home mom.

Interest: Tpr. Linegar enjoys hunting, fishing, kayaking, biking, camping, and anything outdoors.

44th Annual MSHP Golf Tournament Benefits The MASTERS

By Ret. Sgt. Larry M. Bodenhamer

The 44th Missouri State Highway Patrol Employees & Retirees Golf Tournament was held on June 8, 2015, at Meadow Lake Country Club in Clinton, Missouri. Seventy-two golfers competed in a two person scramble format for prizes in three flights. Flight winners and scores were:

Championship Flight

- 1st Place – Lt. Mike Cross & Cpl. Jason M. Cross (H) – 64
- 2nd Place – Tpr. Rick I McQuerry II & Tpr. Joey D. Hall (both A) – 67
- 3rd Place (tie) – Ret. Sgt. R.L. Sam Kaiser & Ret. Sgt. Larry Bodenhamer – 69 Lt. Clark N. Stratton (A) & W. Mitch Bush (D) – 69

A Flight

- 1st Place – Ret. Chief Telecom. Eng. Richard W. King & Ret. Asst. Chief Telecom. Eng. Rob Murray – 80
- 2nd Place (tie) – Lt. D.J. Hedrick (H) & Ret. Sgt. Ronald L. Hedrick – 81
- Ret. Sgt. Dale E. Knox & Auto. Tech. Sprv. Sean D. Jacobs (A) – 81
- Chief Tech. Keith O. Randall (Q/ICTD) & Chief Tech. Brian D. Douglas (Q/ICTD) – 81

B Flight

- 1st Place (tie) – Lt. Nate C. Ahern (A) & Ret. Lt. Phil L. Ahern – 86
- Sgt. Chris M. Gach (A) & Tpr. Bryan Hamerle (A) – 86
- 3rd Place (tie) – Ret. Sgt. Jon S. Daniel & Ret. Capt. Bob P. Stiefferman – 87
- Ret. Lt. James P. Ripley & Capt. Kyle D. Marquart (Q/CIB) – 87

Individual Hole Contest Winners

- Closest To The Pin #6 Retirees – Ret. Sgt. Miles S. Parks
- Most Accurate Drive # 3 – Trainer/Auditor IV Bruce D. Snider (Q/CJISD)
- Closest To The Pin # 17 – Lt. Clark N. Stratton (A)
- Longest Putt # 16 – Ret. Major Tim P. McGrail (23'10")
- Most Accurate Drive Retirees – Ret. Sgt. Art Myers

A total of \$2,350 is being donated to The MASTERS from the proceeds of this tournament. Sam Kaiser served as tournament coordinator for this year's event. Sam and the staff at Meadowlake deserve a hearty thanks for doing a great job in putting together a very well run tournament. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Leadership

“The measure of you as a leader is not what you do, but what people do because of you.”

—Dr. Howard Hendricks,
Dallas Theological
Seminary

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

| Year To Date Oct. 31, 2015 | Same Period Last Year Year To Date | Number Of Increase Or Decrease | 2013 Traffic Fatalities | 2014 Traffic Fatalities |
|----------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 689 | 605 | +84 | 757 | 766 |

Note: These totals do not include late deaths.

RETIREE SPOTLIGHT

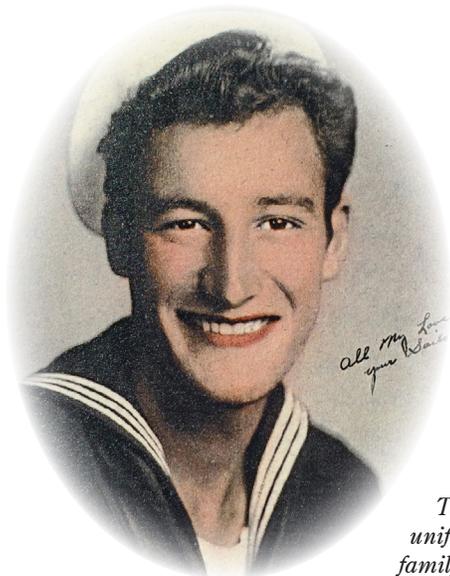
Retired Lieutenant Vern Staggs

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

Retired Lieutenant F. LaVerne Staggs grew up on a farm outside Steffenville, MO. He was the youngest of six children; the brother nearest to him in age was 10 years older.

“There was one bad thing about being born so late—my parents were both old people from the time I could first remember,” Vern said.

Vern described his dad as “pre-historic” because he didn’t believe in modern things. His dad refused to get a tractor, using a team of horses. Vern said he, his brother, and his dad hunted and fished, and his mother was “always ready to cook it for us.” He said the Depression ruined his dad financially, due to his co-signing a loan for Vern’s brother, Claude. But Mr. Staggs managed to pay off Claude’s business debt of \$3,000 over 10 years. But, because their fields were in the river bottom, his dad always had good crops. The family also kept some cattle and hogs. His mother sold cream and eggs to the store in Steffenville. He said that helped them get through the Depression.



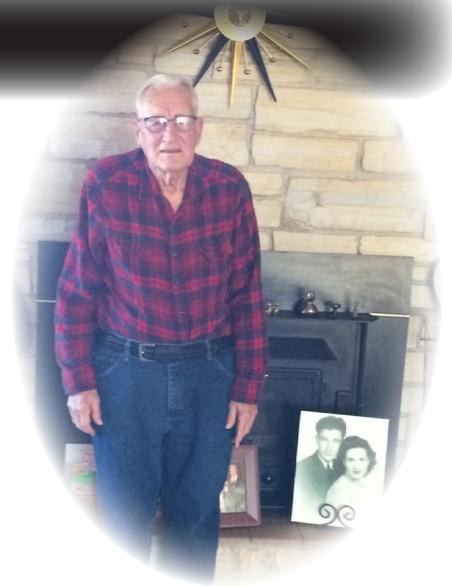
This picture of Vern Staggs in his U.S. Navy uniform appears in a book commissioned by his family to record his and Lora’s life story.

Vern started school at the age of seven, and walked a mile and a half to a one-room, country school. The students ranged in age from six to 16 years old. He said his worst teacher was his brother, Lydle, who graduated from the State Teachers’ College in Kirksville (now Truman University). Vern earned money hunting and fishing from the time he was 14. He trapped muskrats and mink, earning 75 cents each for the former and sometimes \$8-10 for the latter.

Each day, on the way to and from school he checked his traps. The storekeeper in Steffenville let him leave his shotgun in the storeroom there during the school day. He said he used the money he earned to buy clothes, shoes, shotgun shells, and rifle shells. During the winter, he would shoot rabbits for five to 10 cents each. (When it snowed it went down to three cents each.) He’d often get 15 to 20 rabbits at a time. He said he hunted until he was 86 years old.

His first job was hoeing corn for a neighbor, who paid him 50 cents a day. He said kids today are lucky and many have an allowance. “When I got to go to town on Saturday night, if I had a nickel or a dime, I was in good shape,” he said.

He graduated from high school in 1939, the year before a school bus system began. That summer, he and a group of friends worked as a bailing crew, feeding threshed wheat straw into a bailer. Part of their agreement with the farmer was they gave the crew dinner. He worked six days per week, and was paid \$9 each Saturday. On Saturday nights, he and one of the guys would go to a show or someplace, usually a town 15 to 20 miles away. It was



Retired Lt. F.L. “Vern” Staggs

during one of those trips that he went on a date with Lora, his future wife.

Vern and Lora went to the Marion County Fair in Palmyra that night. Then, he didn’t see her again for two years! He went to Kirksville State Teachers’ College, but after the first year knew he didn’t want to teach. He took arc welding lessons for two weeks at a welding school, then went to Quincy, IL. He worked for Electric Wheel Works and earned \$40 per week, which was “good money in 1940.”

Vern and Lora would cross paths again when his roommate went on a date with Lora’s roommate and they were talking about her. They started dating and “soon fell in love and decided to get married,” he said. They were engaged for a month, and got married on March 28, 1942. Their wedding day was interesting. A fan belt broke while they were driving from Quincy to Steffenville. After that was repaired, they arrived at Vern’s folks’ house to pick them up and go to the county courthouse. Vern was only 19, so his father had to give his permission for him to get married. They attended a funeral (niece’s father-in-law), then got stuck in the mud a mile from the farm while taking Vern’s parents home. His dad walked home, harnessed the horses, and came back to pull the car out of the mud. Vern and Lora then drove to the minister’s home to get married.

Continued on the next page.

— Staggs

Continued from page 11.

They moved to Minneapolis, MN, where welders were making \$100 a week during the war. Lora began working at Ford Motor Company and made \$55 per week. They saved Vern's paycheck and lived on Lora's. Vern enlisted in the Naval Reserves December 1, 1942. He went to boot camp in Williamsburg, VA, and became part of the 102nd Navy Seabee Battalion, which was a construction unit.

Eventually, his unit would join the war. His unit was at sea for three months waiting for Finch Haven (Pacific) to be captured. They ran out of food, except for oatmeal and canned apricots. Vern said he still likes oatmeal but hasn't eaten an apricot since. They eventually arrived on Luzon Island and built the Subic Bay Naval Base. He worked as a sergeant of the guard. His son, Rodney, was born while he was overseas. He would be discharged in December 1945. He didn't want to return to welding in Minneapolis, so, Vern and Lora bought 120 acres and some livestock.

Three months later, Vern read somewhere the Highway Patrol was hiring and he sent an application to Jefferson City. He passed all the tests and was invited to six weeks of training at Cuivre River State Park near Troy, MO. There were 5,000 applications for the class, many of whom were servicemen returning from World War II. Only 64 men were accepted; 62 graduated.

"They told us two of us wouldn't make it. The instructors were kind of hard boiled, I thought. We got up at 5 a.m. and were in class until 10 that night. It was a long session, but the training was good," he said.

"I was the youngest one on the Highway Patrol," said Vern. The minimum age was 24 years old. Vern was 23 during training. "Our class was over on August first, so even though I worked with an older trooper, for the

first 12 days I wasn't legally a highway patrolman until I was finally commissioned on the 12th."

In 1946, he was paid \$2,400 per year and worked 12 hours a day, six days a week. "That was quite a bit of money then, enough to make a living, and it was a good, clean job," he said. He wore boots year-round for the first two years. "It got hot in the summer and we didn't have AC in those cars, either! Those old Chevrolets soaked up a lot of heat."



Retired Lt. Vern Staggs is holding one of his Patrol blouses, which hangs in his coat closet.

He said he was on the shooting range one day every month. "I was stupid enough not to wear a muff over my ears, and ruined my ears," he said.

"I was never afraid of a criminal," said Vern. He did say he was extra careful around people with mental illness. "You didn't want to hurt them, but you still had to take them in."

Vern's assignments were many and varied. He was assigned to Chillicothe for the first two years, then

moved to Kirksville. The rank of corporal didn't exist, so when Vern was promoted in 1956, it was to sergeant. He was the youngest sergeant on the Patrol, having been with the agency only nine years. He was assigned to the Kirksville Zone, which included six counties. He supervised two troopers. Vern earned the reputation of being the best law enforcement officer in Kirksville. The Kirksville Jaycees awarded him this title and Governor Kit Bond presented him with a plaque.

Once, he wore his uniform for 48 hours without taking it off – "That's how long it took to quell the riot. No sleep or nothing." He was referring to the 1954 prison riot in Jefferson City. "They rioted trying to get out. None of them made it. All the troopers had to go. I never shot any, but a couple of the guys had to shoot some of them."

He described the World's Fair as his best assignment. He drove a new Buick and had a credit card to use during the assignment. He and two other troopers drove out to New York for the World's Fair. He was a sergeant at the time; the other two members were troopers. They lived in a nice place in Queens. "You could see everything in the World's Fair and it didn't cost you anything. They gave us a ticket at no charge."

He said he never had a holiday off work until he became a lieutenant (1973). "Everyone on the road worked holidays." They moved to Macon when Vern became a lieutenant, but kept their house in Kirksville, and moved back when he retired in 1977.

When Vern retired, he and Lora traveled a lot with their fifth wheel trailer. They loved Canada and went there every summer to fish. They enjoyed four summers in Alaska. "Alaska had a lot of salmon," said Vern, "She caught more than I did. She could cook salmon 13 different ways." He said he's been to Hawaii and Japan, too.

Vern and Lora were married 71 years before she died in 2013. Their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren don't live in the area,

Continued on the next page.

— Staggs

Continued from page 12.

but he sure is proud of them. Although he's owned a farm since 1955, he's never farmed; he rents it out. "I have a new John Deere in the shed. There's not even 100 hours on it in three

years." He says he uses the John Deere to keep the gravel road between his farms "beautified." "It's 10 miles there and 10 miles back," he said.

Vern still walks a mile every morning at the Kirksville rehab. "I go up there and walk a mile and that's it for the day."

In his coat closet hangs a pristine dress uniform. "I kept the dress uniform. I'm going to be buried in it. Have to wear something," he laughed.

What Boys State Meant To Me

By Superintendent Austin Lehnert, Boys State Patrol

To say Boys State was an experience of a lifetime would be an understatement. Over the course of a week, I made lasting friendships, strengthened my communication skills, and I now feel the need to serve my country on a deeper level. However, beyond all that, what Boys State meant to me can be summed up by two words: honor and obligation. It was an honor to be selected for the Boys State program, and I made it my duty to not waste that honor. I have always known it is an honor to be born in the great country of America. Not only did Boys State confirm this thought, but also fortified my belief that it is my duty to serve my country. The second word I associated with the meaning of Boys State is obligation. Since it is such a great honor to be born in America, I feel I am obligated to give back to this great nation. Boys State taught me that it is my duty to continuously give back to

The Boys State law enforcement classes drew a lot of interest.



my country during my lifetime, and also to teach others about the necessity of serving and giving back to our country. One of my favorite parts of Boys State was getting to listen to all of the speakers, such as Eric Greitens and General Steele. These men know what it means to serve, and understand the necessity of inspiring the next generation

to serve. It is truly an honor to be obligated to serve our nation.



Sgt. Jeff L. White, Q/DDCC, answers questions about the Patrol's Bomb Squad.

Sgt. R. Brooks McGinnis, Troop A, and K9 Jampy provided a demonstration at Boys State.

Boys State Replicates Real Life

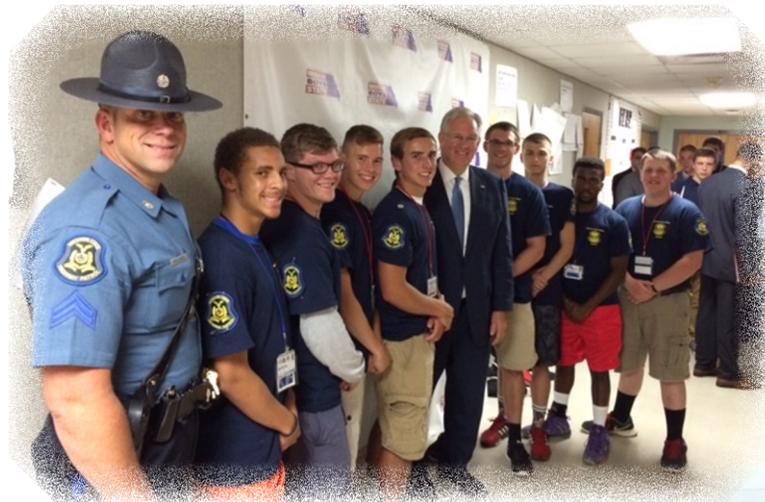
By Trooper Parker Petersen, Boys State Patrol

Missouri Boys State is a political simulation program held at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, MO. Every year, 1,000 Missouri high school students participate in this weeklong glimpse of the inner workings of our state government. Each citizen is assigned a "city" upon arrival, which determines where they will live for the week. The citizens must build and define their government from the city level all the way up to the unified state.

It's difficult to know the direction one wants to take on the first day, but I have always been interested in law enforcement, so I decided to apply for

ble for the laws. Ultimately, I could see that being a Highway Patrol trooper is often a thankless job. There was no fanfare or ceremony for the Boys State troopers, and when things went wrong, law enforcement frequently took the blame. When things went well, law enforcement was seldom given any credit.

Law enforcement in the real world, as I began to realize, is not about the credit or spotlight. It is about living a life of service, and doing your best to



Governor Jay Nixon (center) and Cpl. John H. Lueckenhoff, Troop D, are seen with the Boys State Patrol.

improve the lives of those around you. I know this is a huge task. Boys State gave me a higher level of respect for the job that our law enforcement officials do. Missouri Boys State proved to be a great program, and gave its participants real, applicable knowledge that they can use to serve and better their own communities.

the position of Boys State Highway Patrolman. I, along with eight other troopers, and under the direction of real Highway Patrol troopers, policed the roads and cities of Boys State. We wrote tickets for law violations, established relationships within the communities, and even busted a major crime ring. While I enjoyed the job tremendously, its real value lies in what I learned.

I was surprised at how Boys State replicated real life situations. As troopers, we faced considerable resistance from the media in our investigations. Tasked to uphold the law, we also had to find a balance between making friends and holding everyone responsi-

The Bomb Squad robots (and Sgt. Mike A. Cunningham, Q/DDCC) were a hit.



Promotions



S. Andy Coats
Lieutenant
Troop A



Douglas J. Hedrick
Lieutenant
Troop H



Mike E. Broniec
Sergeant
Troop C



Kent M. Kreftmeyer
Sergeant
Troop F



Trois L. Maloney
Sergeant
Q/TND



Matt E. Morice
Sergeant
Troop F



J. Derek Ogden
Sergeant
Troop A



Shane R. Rowe
Sergeant
Troop D



Ryan S. Smith
Sergeant
Troop A



J. Todd Vermillion
Sergeant
Troop D



Eddie J. Walker
Sergeant
Troop D



Elan B. Adams
Corporal
Troop D



Mike D. Adams
Corporal
Troop D



Walter L. Burr III
Corporal
Troop D



Aaron S. Craig
Corporal
Troop A

Promotions



Spencer D. Galaska
Corporal
Troop A



Brad R. Germann
Corporal
Q/GSD



Charles D. Gullett
Corporal
Troop C



Dave A. Jones
Corporal
Troop A



William R. Koch
Corporal
Troop B



Brandon M. Parker
Corporal
Troop A



Daniel A. Spring
Corporal
Troop B



Chris M. Turner
Corporal
Q/GD



Paula J. Price
Asst. Chief Oper.
Troop F



Alicia L. Smith
Comm. Oper. II
Troop C



Marcie J. Abbey
Criminalist II
Q/CLD



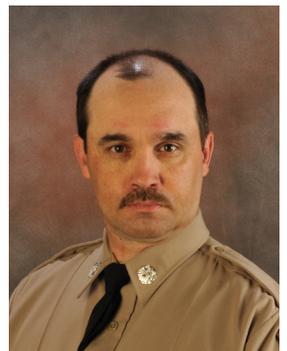
Kayle J. Ballew
Auto. Tech. III
Q/FFD



Sonna L. Basler
MVI III
Troop B



Sarah A. Brown
Criminalist II
Q/CLD



Mark D. Counts
CVE Inspector Sprv. I
Troop E

Promotions



Leamon E. Crafton Jr.
Program Sprv.
Q/CJISD



Beth A. Ellison
DE III
Troop F



Raelene Estes
DE Sprv.
Troop A



S. Michelle Gabelsberger
Fiscal & Budgetary
Analyst II
Q/MVID



Michael D. Hobson
Criminalist III
Q/CLD



Paige A. Hull
Criminalist II
Q/CLD



April D. Masterson
CJIS Technician II
Q/CJISD



Chris M. Oros
CITS II
Q/ICTD



John M. Rollins
CJIS Technician II
Q/CJISD



Brandy L. Schaefer
CJIS Technician II
Q/CJISD



Angela K. Schepers
CJIS Tech. III
Q/CJISD



Tonya M. Sing
DE II
Troop A



Abby L. Swanson
DE II
Troop C



Madi R. Vance
Personnel Analyst I
Q/HRD

Promotions



Gary Ward Jr.
Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II
Troop C



Danny L. Wyatt
Bldg. & Grnds. Maint.
Sprv.
Troop B



Donny D. Wyatt
DE II
Troop B

Anniversaries

October

35 years

MVI Sprv. D. Alan Fountain,
Troop C

30 years

CIT Spec. II Matt A. Beck,
Q/ICTD

20 years

Lt. Jeff A. Bair, Troop I
Cpl. Jim R. Barlow, Troop C
Tpr. Shannon D. Bledsoe, Troop F
Lt. Erik A. Gottman, Troop B
Sgt. Charles W. Hoff, Q/WPD
Tpr. Ron L. Kelley, Troop D
Tpr. Dave R. Nelson, Troop C
Sgt. Bryan G. Parrott, Troop A
Tpr. Steve R. Peterson, Troop B
Sgt. Jay A. Pragman, Q/DDCC

15 years

Garage Supt. Brad W. Adams,
Q/FFD
Sgt. F. David Bierer, Q/GD

Sgt. Chris S. Daniels, Troop F
Sgt. Jeff D. Johnson, Q/DDCC
Asst. Dir. Eric S. Romph, Q/FFD

10 years

Criminalist III Shawn M. Bailes,
Q/CLD
Technician III Chuck E. Davis,
Q/CLD
Insurance Clerk Carrie A. James,
Q/HRD
DE III Karen A. Kolieboi, Troop C
Specialist II Byron W. Sullivan,
Q/CJISD

5 years

Criminalist III Justin M. Owens,
Q/CLD
Fiscal & Budget Analyst II S.
Michelle Gabelsberger, Q/MVI

November

20 years

DE Sprv. Debbie V. Knox, Troop A
DE Sprv. Tim Murphy, Troop A

Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II David M.
Sturtz, Q/TD

15 years

MVI III Tony L. Caudle, Troop A
MVI III Nate L. Winkler, Troop B

10 years

Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II John G.
Brenneke, Q/FFD
DE Sprv. Jeremy M. Calfee,
Troop H
DE III Donna S. Henman, Troop H
MVI Jeff A. Wood, Troop G

5 years

Cook III Sonja Y. Barborek, Q/TD
Clerk IV Jessica M. Meyer,
Troop C
Program Sprv. Alisha D. Thomas,
Q/CJISD
Accountant II Sandy K. Walters,
Q/BPD

THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

Hundreds Gather To Mourn Tpr. James M. Bava

By Cpl. Bruce A. McLaughlin, Troop F

At approximately 8:30 a.m., August 28, 2015, Trooper James Matthew Bava laid down his life for the people he had committed to serve. He was on Missouri Route FF in Audrain County, attempting to overtake a motorcycle traveling at a high rate of speed when he traveled off the left side of the roadway and crashed. In that moment, Tpr. Bava stepped into eternity and became the 31st member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol to lose his earthly life in the line of duty.

James began his career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol July 1, 2013, as a member of the 97th Recruit Class. Just over two years later, he died by attempting to make Audrain County's most dangerous road safer. Ultimately, he did. That roadway is now safer because the motorcyclist he was attempting to overtake was identified and interviewed later that same day by the Patrol's highly skilled investigators with help from other law enforcement agencies. If it were not



The Troop F Honor Guard stands watch over their fallen brother. Pictured are (l to r) Tpr. Andy A. Armstrong, Sgt. Craig R. Kicker, and Sgt. Ron D. Kyle.

for James' efforts and sacrifice, that motorcyclist may never have been found.

Tpr. Bava's funeral was at 9:30 a.m., September 4, 2015, at the Dardenne Presbyterian Church in Dardenne Prairie, MO. Hundreds of his family, friends, and fellow law en-

forcement officers from various police departments across the nation attended. Those providing words of testimony on behalf of Tpr. Bava included his brother, Officer Joshua Bava; his pastors, Rich Hamlin and Scott Churn-

Continued on the next page.



Officer Joshua Bava spoke eloquently at this brother's funeral.

Bava

Continued from page 19.

ock; his friends, Wes Bridges and Jon Rector; his sergeant, Doug B. McPike; his corporal, Bruce A. McLaughlin; and Missouri Governor Jeremiah W. Nixon. In addition, tributes were shared on behalf of James' parents, Jim and Alyce Bava, and his fiancée, Rose Sanders. Excerpts from those tributes are included in this *Patrol News* issue.

Following the ceremony, a long line of mourners traveled to Our Lady Cemetery and Mausoleum in Lake St. Louis. The procession passed hundreds of supporters holding flags and some with signs that read "Trooper Bava is our hero." A large American flag was suspended by two fire department ladder trucks, and numerous wreckers with their lights activated lined the roadway. At the cemetery, the Troop F Honor Guard performed a 21-gun salute and ceremoniously folded the Missouri flag draped across Tpr. Bava's casket. Retired Troop H Communications Chief Roger M.



Zone mates, Sgt. Doug B. McPike, Cpl. Bruce McLaughlin, Sgt. Craig R. Kicker, were joined by Tpr. Bava's close friends and brother, Joshua, in carrying the casket from the church to the hearse after the funeral. Zone mate Tpr. Austin B. Kings, Troop F, served as an honorary pall bearer (not visible in picture).

Heard played the bagpipes and Troop A Communications Operator III Ila R. Duvall played "Taps." Colonel J. Bret Johnson, superintendent of the Patrol, presented folded flags to James' mother, Alyce, and to his fiancée, Rose. Troop C Chief Operator Lori K. Bielawski made the last call for Tpr. Bava, "Jefferson City 162 ... Jefferson City 162 ..." With the silence that followed, everyone's eyes were filled with tears.

Tpr. James Bava is survived by his parents, Jim and Alyce Bava; fiancée, Rose Sanders; brother, Joshua Bava (and his wife, Elizabeth); sisters, Katharine Bava, Alyssa Bava, and Renee Kunkel (and her husband, Matthew); nephew, Nathan James Bava; nieces, Elena Bava, Hannah Kunkel, and Delaney Kunkel; and grandmother, Mary Brindy. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Maude Galletto, Tiofaro Galletto, and Dominic Bava.

Tpr. James M. Bava: A Loving, Positive, Humble Servant

By Cpl. Bruce A. McLaughlin, Troop F

When I met Trooper James M. Bava, if I would have had any idea that we would soon lose him, I would have told him to turn around and find another career. That would have saved his and the Patrol family the pain of mourning his early passing. However, because only God knows the future, I had the pleasure of becoming

acquainted with one of the finest men ever to become a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. In the short 20 months he was in our zone, he positively influenced us and many others, leaving us lamenting that we did not have more time with him.

My first day with James as his field training officer, I recognized

quickly there was something different about him. He was quiet and humble with a generous smile and a sharp mind. James reserved his speech only for positive conversations and comments, and never spoke ill of anyone. As time went on, I noticed he never complained, but I thought that might be only because he did not want to be evaluated poorly for his attitude. I later understood that James' attitude was always positive and he did not complain—ever. What few words he spoke were consistently kind and uplifting. He was a great conversationalist, but rarely initiated discussion. With time, I learned that James' positive speech



Area wrecker operators honored Tpr. James M. Bava's sacrifice with this American flag as the funeral procession passed.

Continued on the next page.

Bava

Continued from page 20.

and attitude were merely two of many manifestations of his good heart—a heart he had devoted to his Savior, Jesus Christ.

After the funeral, I became more acquainted with James' family. By getting to know his family, it became clear why James was the good, God-loving man he was. I heard stories about several sacrificial and loving acts of his, and I was disappointed he had never shared them with me. But, that was who he was. He was a humble, loving servant that rarely spoke about himself and never bragged. After knowing James and later learning so much about him, both my wife and I have since committed ourselves to be more like James in our endeavor to be more like Christ—to be humble servants who speak ill of no one. In our minds, James was an example of which the apostle Paul speaks in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Imitate me just as I also imitate Christ."

Although I made a feeble attempt, it is difficult to do justice to the memory of such a good man. Trooper James M. Bava made more of an impression on me in the meager two years I knew him than most people would in a lifetime. Even so, he was gone too soon and I miss him. August 28, 2015 was a



Motorcycle officers from multiple agencies stand at parade rest near the cemetery awaiting the funeral procession.

day that will forever live in my heart, as a fine man left me longing for more time with him on this planet. As Sergeant Doug B. McPike, Troop F, said, "It was an honor to serve with James, and I feel blessed to have known him. I'll miss him, and I'll never forget him."

Troop A Comm. Oper. III Ila R. DuVall plays "Taps" on the trumpet as part of the graveside service.



Sgt. Matt J. Broniec, Troop F, salutes as Colonel J. Bret Johnson accepts the folded Missouri flag as part of the service.



Col. J. Bret Johnson presents a folded Missouri flag to Mr. Jim and Mrs. Alyce Bava.

A Parents' Letter Of Love, Grief

By Mr. Jim & Mrs. Alyce Bava

Dear James,

As we write this, it has been almost two weeks since you have passed from this life. Even though we prepared for and held the services and memorials for you we still can't believe that you're gone. We keep looking at the front door, hoping that at any minute you will walk in with your gym bag full of dirty clothes and give us that typical, "Hey, what's up?" Then you'd look at us with a big smile on your face and give us both a hug while saying you missed us. We miss your smile and the humor that always made us laugh. We remember when you were very young and you loved tagging along whenever we had to make a quick run somewhere. You always loved to be close by mom and dad.

While you grew up to be a strong and confident young man you also grew in compassion, understanding, and forgiveness. Even when you teased one of the family, it was never mean-spirited, but always in fun. We are so proud of you, son.

Throughout your entire life you met and made many friends. All of them experienced what a wonderful, giving, and loving young man you are. Every person you met seems to have a story about how funny, helpful, dedicated, and loyal you are, James. You had an amazing gift of making every person you met instantly feel comfortable. We are so proud of you as a person and how you lived your life. You chose to live it with laughter and love and openly shared your Christian faith with anyone who was willing to listen.

You loved your friends and family unconditionally. Even when mom and dad nagged at you, your love was unwavering. We have always had a loving relationship with you, son, and for that we are forever blessed. There were so many things we wanted to say at the



Tpr. James M. Bava stands between his parents, Jim and Alyce, after the 97th Recruit Class graduation ceremony in 2013.

funeral services, but couldn't because we were still trying to understand all that had just happened. However, we do want everyone to know what a perfect son you were. Beyond the great big smile was a great big heart with tremendous capacity to love others. You lived life to the fullest and were preparing to move into the next phase of your life—marriage and then children. Your legacy will be carried on by those you left behind. Their lives are forever changed because of you.

Holding your funeral was the most difficult thing we have ever done. No parent should ever have to bury their child. Living life without your smiles, hugs, and laughter is so difficult. You were our third child and one of the greatest blessings in our lives. The overwhelming love and support we received from your friends is helping us through this difficult time. We felt your hugs from every friend of yours who came up to us. Our family is stronger because of you. This is because everyone loves you, James.

As painful as it is to laugh without you physically by our side we will choose to do so. That is the lesson you've taught us. Thank you for the life lessons. Thank you for loving us. Thank you for the best 25 years of our life. Thank you for your hugs and kisses. Thank you for enduring life with gratitude. Thank you for coming home every birthday and holiday and occasional weekends. Thank you for being so understanding and forgiving. Thank you for openly sharing your Christian faith. Thank you for being a great son, brother, uncle, and friend. Thank you for the honor of being called your mom and dad.

We love you very much, James. We miss you so much it hurts.

We hold to the promise of our Heavenly Father that we will see you again in Heaven when we leave this life.

*Love always,
Mom and Dad*

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."

John 11:25-26

Tpr. Bava: Best Friend, Role Model, Hero

By Pastor Jonathan Rector

It is impossible to sum up a man's life with a few words, pictures, and testimonies; but, a man like James told his own story by the way he lived. Ask anyone who knew James, he was a man of Godly character, integrity, and love. I met James in January 2009, at Greenville College in Greenville, IL. James was sitting in a barren college dorm inside of Holtwick Hall reading a book while the rest of second floor was busy with move-in day. After a floor mate of mine pointed out a new face sitting alone, I quickly approached James. I asked him what he was doing (as he was obviously reading a book). With a quick and sly smile he replied, "Reading a book." Instantly, James and I began a conversation and, little did I know, a best friendship.

That semester seemed like four years with James and our crew. We laughed, cried, and made memories that will last a lifetime. James and I enjoyed playing baseball, lifting weights, and pranking others. He was very intelligent, quick witted, and easily became a friend magnet. James was

always a man who knew what he wanted, but took his time getting there. He knew he wanted to become a police officer. He liked photography, but he loved the idea of law enforcement even more. He was driven, selfless, and everything he said or did was always out of love. He saw his future fiancé Rose, and he knew he would marry her one day. He was planning to until his life ended abruptly August 28, 2015.

James and I remained close until the day he died. He stood in my wedding, and he had asked me to stand in his. Excitedly, I shared the good news of my wife and I's new baby due in February 2016, and he was excited to be Uncle Jamesy. He was a dedicated family man, friend, and loved Rose with all his heart. James will always be one of the best men I know. College was exciting for us, full of memories, but we were more excited for days to come. His future was bright, and he loved his career. I saw how proud he was of his older brother, Joshua, for being a police officer, and I knew he enjoyed sharing in the duty of protecting and serving others.

James died as he lived: a hero. I know he saved at least two other friends from depression and suicide. He modeled his faith in Jesus Christ daily, and rarely had to say anything. His infectious smile and loving attitude made it to where anyone could be friends with him. When I met him at Greenville College I was not a follower of Jesus Christ. He impacted me greatly by co-leading a Bible study on my floor, encouraging me to go to church with him or student-led chapel, and having great one-on-one talks whether it was theology or talking through an issue. Because of James, I later dedicated my life to Jesus Christ and am now a pastor.

James Bava will always be my best friend, role model, and hero. James valiantly went to Ferguson, MO, twice to keep the peace, and never had one bad thing to say about anyone there. He was quick to defend his law enforcement family, but was just as quick to call them out if they were in the wrong. The death of my best friend James Matthew Bava is hard to bear. But, as he encouraged me to remember: God is in control. I was honored to speak at his funeral, meet his law enforcement family, and spend time mourning with his family. His family is a direct representation of who James was, and it warms my heart to see a family so devoted to God and each other. Thank you to the Missouri State Highway Patrol for your professionalism, dedication, and love you displayed through this great tragedy. Thank you to the Bava family for your love and the opportunity to know your son, brother, and loved one. May God bless the Bava family, law enforcement community, and those mourning James Bava.

James, I cannot wait to see you again in Heaven.



Tpr. James Bava, his fiancée Rose, Pastor Jonathan & Mrs. Shanna Rector shared a close friendship.

Tpr. Bava Made A Positive Impact

By Mr. Joshua Bava

Integrity, responsibility, respect, professionalism, compassion, resourcefulness, character, and commitment — as I reflect upon these core values of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, I am continually reminded of my brother, Trooper James M. Bava. He believed in and modeled all of these values, both on and off the job. However, the Patrol was not where James learned these values. These were attributes that he already possessed and grew up holding as a young boy and then a man; he brought these values with him to the Patrol in 2013.

Over these last two weeks, I have been impressed to see that James did not hold these values alone in the Patrol. I have observed that James worked both with and for many other men and women who also hold these values. I see why James was so proud to wear the uniform of an MSHP trooper.

I was never more happy for James than the day I saw him graduate from the Academy and fulfill his dream, and I have never been more despondent



The Bava brothers: Joshua and James Bava posed for this picture on the day Joshua was sworn in as an officer with the O'Fallon Police Department.

than the day he was taken from us. I have been so incredibly blessed, however, to have had 25 years with my brother. In life and in death, he has positively impacted so many lives. He has taught me, my family, and his friends so many things. James, with his humble manner and his genuine smile, was a role model for so many. His priorities in life were God, family, and country, and his love for these three was obvious in the way that he lived.

It is hard to fathom going on without James. Without his bright

presence, the world feels much darker and lonelier. The way I will press on is through my confidence that I will see him again in Heaven. I will always cherish the memories that I hold of James and will strive to follow the example he set. James will always be

loved and he will never be forgotten. He will continue to patrol the streets of Missouri as his photo will be forever tucked within my vest.

Was That My Cake?

By Tpr. Austin B. Kings, Troop F

A couple days before we lost James, I left a piece of cake on the desk in the zone office. I had covered it and planned to enjoy it later. I left the office in a hurry to work on something and forgot about the cake. When I came on duty the next day, I wondered if I had in fact left it on the desk. The more I thought about it, the more I was looking forward to eating it. When I got to the office I found James sitting at the desk where I believed I had left the treat. I inquired if he had seen a slice of cake wrapped up and pristine on the desk where he was sitting. James smiled and stated he thought Diane (our cleaning lady) had left the piece on the desk for him, and he ate it with much enjoyment. Although I was distraught at the news of my cake, James and I shared a laugh about the situation. I will remember James as a guy so friendly and jovial you couldn't even hate him for eating your cake.

Tpr. James Bava Is A Hero

By Mr. Colton Adomatis

What is a hero? A hero is a person admired for feats of courage, outstanding achievements, or nobility of purpose, especially one who has risked or sacrificed his or her life. James was a man who selflessly helped anyone in need with no concern to race or opposing ideals. He had served twice in Ferguson, Missouri, because he loved helping the people of Missouri. James was my best friend. When James and I would talk at night, James would never say anything unpleasant about anyone. James saved my life twice during college while I was suffering from severe depression after losing a family member who was very close to me, and when I was low on self-worth. Without hesitating James would comfort me and patiently talk with me about my troubles. James followed up with me every night, whether it was on the phone or on our gaming consoles, for an entire year. He acquired these characteristics from his parents, Alyce and Jim Bava, who are some of the most loving and caring people I know. James was a great man, and yes, Trooper James Matthew Bava is a hero!

GIRLS STATE CHANGES PERSPECTIVE

*By Superintendent Natalie Leathers
Girls State Patrol*

Very early this year, I was honored to find out that I was selected to be one of the juniors from my school, Salem High School, to be a delegate at Missouri Girls State 2015. I had heard a lot about Girls State over the years from people who had been. I knew it looked good on college and scholarship applications, so I figured it was worth a week of my summer. But as the week approached, I began to get apprehensive. I wouldn't know anyone. I wouldn't get any sleep. I am not all that interested in politics, so I dreaded everything about Girls State. But, I had heard that Highway Patrol was a job option, so I made up my mind that I would try and be a part of that. After all, my dad is a state trooper, so I wanted see what it would be like to be in his shoes for a week.

When I got to the University of Central Missouri campus, weighed down by my massive suitcase and duffel bags, I was absolutely overwhelmed. I was surrounded by unfamiliar girls—835 to be exact—who all looked as overwhelmed as I was. As



Girls State troopers pose for this photo with (l to r) Sgt. Al P. Nothum, Troop C, Major Sarah L. Eberhard, Q/TSB, Lt. Col. Sandy K. Karsten, Q/ASO, and Sgt. Danielle E. Heil, Q/DDCC.

I found my place in the mythical Covington City, Price County, I met the 40 girls that I would spend the rest of my week with. I quickly learned that they were a lot like me. We were all leaders in our school, whether it be a part of student council, ROTC, or a sports team. On the first day, we had to choose two girls to represent Covington in the Highway Patrol. I and several others stood up to plead our case. I explained why I wanted this job. Votes were cast, and I was selected. What a relief.

Each day, we woke up at the crack of dawn, saluted the rising flag, and attended classes, meetings, and assemblies. Each person found their niche: senator, election official, broadcast journalist, business owner, attorney, etc. We went to the classes and meetings that applied to our individual jobs and interests; I attended the Law Enforcement class. It was definitely the most popular! We learned about state and constitutional law, Highway Patrol policies, drug abuse, and many other topics that gave us an idea of what it is like to be a trooper. Even being the

daughter of a state trooper, I never knew the Highway Patrol did so much! I also got to meet the two members who represented the Missouri State Highway Patrol at Girls State, Sergeant Al P. Nothum, Troop C, and Sergeant Danielle E. Heil, Q/DDCC. Their love and passion for their careers really inspired me, and I'm sure many others can say the same.

As a part of the Girls State Highway Patrol, one of my jobs was to write tickets for whatever "rule violation" we witnessed. Most of the violations were silly. For example, I wrote a girl in my city a ticket for slapping her roommate with a Twizzler. We had a lot of fun with ticket writing. But, that was only a small part of what I did that week. In one of our first Highway Patrol meetings, we were told that we could write an essay to try and get promoted to higher ranks. I figured I would give it a shot. I wrote my essay on promoting seat belt safety. I soon found out that I was promoted to captain! I immediately sent my dad a picture of my captain's bars. He was as excited as I was! After all the excitement from the promotions had settled, we were told that we could write a separate essay to try to be appointed as superintendent of

This Missouri Girls State participant laughs while trying to carry gear a SWAT member might have.

Continued on the next page.

— Girls

Continued from page 25.

next year's Girls State Highway Patrol. I worked so hard on this essay, because being appointed as superintendent would be incredible. I wrote this essay on sending more MSHP officers to DRE and ARIDE training. I was later interviewed by the newly elected Girls State Governor Madi Loescher. During the inauguration ceremony, Governor Loescher announced who she had appointed as superintendent. She called my name. I was so unbelievably happy! I couldn't wait to tell my dad that he would have to start saluting me when I got home.

I am so excited to go back to Girls State next year as superintendent. I really hope I get to work with Sgt. Nothum and Sgt. Heil again. I left Girls State with a completely different mindset than I had when I got there. I



(l to r) Lt. Col. Sandy Karsten, Q/ASO, addresses the Missouri Girls State troopers. Major Sarah L. Eberhard, Q/TSB, observes.

had so much confidence in myself, my abilities, and the future of our nation. I'll forever cherish the friendships and memories that I made that week. By

the way, when my dad came to pick me up, he did salute me ... right after he gave me a big, proud hug.

USEOW Recognizes Patrol Program

By Capt. John J. Hotz, Q/PIED

Retired Captain Gary L. Moore recognized a need and took action. After a school bus incident in Dale County, AL, in 2013, Gary developed the program dealing with an active shooter on a school bus. In the 2013 incident, the bus driver was killed and a child was taken hostage. Gary has presented the program in 10 states as well as Canada over the last 20 months. His 106 presentations have reached approximately 9,500 people.

Each year, officers from around the nation gather for the Uniformed Safety Education Officers Workshop. This year, we met in Des Moines, Iowa. Part of this workshop includes troopers competing against one another by presenting a traffic or public safety program at the conference. I was aware of Gary's successful program addressing an active shooter on



Pictured are Retired Captain Gary Moore and Captain John J. Hotz, Q/PIED, with the second place award for a Public Safety Presentation at the 48th Uniformed Safety Education Officer Workshop in Des Moines, Iowa.

a school bus, and thought it would be good information to share. I modified the program slightly and presented it at the conference on June 17, 2015. This year, troopers from 10 states com-

peted at USEOW. Missouri brought home second place in the competition.

Great work on developing the program, Gary!

'Looking Beyond The Stop'

The following officers are to be commended for looking beyond the initial traffic/boating stop. Each of these officers made at least one arrest during the period of June 18 to August 18. (Editor's note: This column excludes DWI/BWI arrests, warrant arrests, and "plain sight" situations. Keep in mind that there must be information in the "miscellaneous" section of the radio report to be considered for this column. Rank and assignment reflect those at printing.)

Troop A

Tpr. D.R. Becker, 1 arrest
Tpr. R.J. Chapman, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.J. Crump, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.L. Dillon, 1 arrest
Tpr. Q.L. Dinovi, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.A. Duvall, 1 arrest
Sgt. K.M. Fisher, 2 arrests
Tpr. B.P. Hamerle, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.W. Hunter, 2 arrests
Cpl. D.A. Jones, 2 arrests
Tpr. J.T. Langsdale, 3 arrests
Tpr. E.A. Lusk, 2 arrests
Cpl. D.D. Mathes, 2 arrests
Sgt. R.B. McGinnis, 2 arrests
Tpr. C.D. Moeller, 1 arrest
Cpl. J.D. Owens, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.A. Paulsen, 2 arrests
Tpr. B.R. Peters, 1 arrest
Sgt. G.D. Primm, 2 arrests
Tpr. B.M. Ryun, 3 arrests
Tpr. C.T. Schwarz, 3 arrests*
CVE Insp. III J.P. Curtright, 1 assist*
Tpr. H.R. Stevens, 1 arrest
Sgt. C.E. Utterback, 3 arrests
Cpl. J.C. Utz, 6 arrests
Tpr. E.J. Villanueva, 1 arrest
Tpr. E.N. Wilson, 1 arrest
Tpr. G.B. Wright, 1 arrest
Tpr. T.R. Wright, 2 arrests
Tpr. M.G. Yendes, 1 arrest
Tpr. M.J. Yoder, 1 arrest

Troop B

Sgt. N.D. Berry, 2 arrests
Cpl. C.M. Duppong, 2 arrests
Tpr. L.C. Ewigman, 2 arrests
Tpr. A.J. Fish, 1 arrest
Tpr. G.L. Gaines, 9 arrests
Tpr. T.J. Haley, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.R. Henry, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.P. Johnson, 6 arrests
Tpr. R.A. Lawrence, 1 arrest
Cpl. M.J. Lewis, 5 arrests
Tpr. K. McGivney, 3 arrests
Tpr. C.D. Primm, 1 arrest
Sgt. R.L. Seiner, 2 arrests
Cpl. D.A. Spring, 1 arrest

Tpr. B.D. Tappendorf, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.W. Walton, 1 arrest

Troop C

Tpr. K.E. Alcorn, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.J. Arsenault, 2 arrests
Tpr. O.R. Baker, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.L. Bilyeu, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.J. Burnett, 1 arrest
Sgt. J.R. Campbell, 3 arrests
Cpl. B.J. Fowler, 1 arrest
Cpl. C.D. Gullett, 4 arrests
Tpr. D.C. Highley, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.F. Isringhausen, 1 arrest
Tpr. V.M. Kasput, 6 arrests
Cpl. L.J. Keathley, 1 arrest
Tpr. Z.C. Kral, 1 arrest
Tpr. P.C. Long, 1 arrest
Tpr. L.S. Lowe, 2 arrests
Tpr. D.A. Mason, 1 arrest
Tpr. R.J. North, 4 arrests
Tpr. K.D. Scruggs, 2 arrests
Sgt. W.B. Sevier, 1 arrest
Tpr. S.S. Sitton, 2 arrests
Tpr. A.D. Smith, 1 arrest
Tpr. B.A. Teague, 1 arrest
Cpl. J.S. Warren, 1 arrest

Troop D

Tpr. Z.K. Bryan, 2 arrests
Tpr. T.L. Coffey, 1 arrest
Tpr. J. Drum, 1 arrest
Sgt. J.D. Fugett, 1 arrest
Sgt. M.D. Green, 1 arrest
Cpl. T.A. Hadlock, 2 arrests
Tpr. B.A. Hall, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.W. Henley, 2 arrests
Cpl. G.H. Hendrix, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.L. Johnson, 10 arrests
Tpr. R.L. Kelley, 2 arrests
Tpr. K.L. Knight, 1 arrest
Tpr. T.W. Meyer, 4 arrests
Tpr. A.S. Rice, 1 arrest
Tpr. A. Sandoval Jr., 1 arrest
Tpr. C.A. Stallcup, 3 arrests
Tpr. C.A. Sumner, 1 arrest

Troop E

Cpl. F.L. Butler Jr., 1 arrest
Cpl. D.W. Crank, 1 arrest
Tpr. M.B. Foster, 1 arrest
Cpl. C.D. Hamlett, 1 arrest
Tpr. L.J. Hagggett, 1 arrest
Tpr. K.L. Huggins, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.E. Leach, 2 arrests
Tpr. A.N. Miller, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.L. Purnell, 3 arrests
Tpr. R.T. Schneid, 1 arrest
Tpr. S.K. Talburt, 2 arrests
Tpr. J.J. West, 2 arrests
Cpl. J.A. Wilson, 1 arrest

Troop F

Tpr. M.P. Acord, 2 arrests
Cpl. B.W. Adamson, 9 arrests
Tpr. Z.A. Czerniewski, 1 arrest
Tpr. T.C. Fick, 2 arrests
Tpr. D.L. Fouch, 5 arrests
Tpr. D.W. Foust, 1 arrest
Tpr. G.E. Gundy, 1 arrest
Cpl. M.T. Halford, 2 arrests
Tpr. B.L. Harris, 2 arrests
Tpr. A.M. Hitt, 2 arrests
Cpl. D.P. Hutzler, 3 arrests
Sgt. S.B. Johnson, 5 arrests
Tpr. M.G. Kettenbach, 1 arrest
Sgt. M.E. Morice, 1 arrest
Tpr. E.B. Mueller, 1 arrest
Tpr. W.R. Plumley Jr., 3 arrests
Cpl. D.R. Powell, 1 arrest
Tpr. M.L. Rice, 3 arrests
Tpr. A.M. Richerson, 1 arrest
Tpr. D.T. Shikles, 2 arrests
Tpr. D.K. Sullivan, 8 arrests
Sgt. R.S. Thompson, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.W. Turner, 2 arrests
Tpr. J.H. Vislay, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.A. Winter, 2 arrests

Troop G

Tpr. T.L. Brown, 1 arrest
Sgt. J.A. Cravens, 2 arrests
Tpr. C.L. Davis, 1 arrest

Continued on the next page.

— Stop

Continued from page 27.

Sgt. S.N. Foster, 1 arrest
Tpr. R.M. Greenan, 3 arrests
Cpl. C.R. Haden, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.M. Heimsoth, 1 arrest
Cpl. A.D. Johnson, 1 arrest
Cpl. D.J. Johnson, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.A. Kimes, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.W. Philpott, 2 arrests
Tpr. J.C. Piccinino, 2 arrests
Sgt. D.B. Pounds, 1 arrest
Tpr. B.C. Rowden, 1 arrest
Tpr. G.T. Ulm, 3 arrests
Tpr. E.M. VanWinkle, 1 arrest
Tpr. R.D. Vaughan, 1 arrest

Troop H

Tpr. K.J. Cool, 1 arrest
Cpl. J.M. Cross, 3 arrests

Tpr. J.C. Daly, 2 arrests
Tpr. K. Davis, 1 arrest
Tpr. K.R. Dinwiddie, 1 arrest
Lt. D.J. Hedrick, 2 arrests
Tpr. D.A. Landi, 2 arrests
Sgt. D.P. Little, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.P. Lynch, 1 arrest
Cpl. B.E. Maudlin, 3 arrests
Tpr. J.D. Maudlin, 4 arrests**
Tpr. M.J. Miller, 2 arrests
Tpr. B.R. Muck, 1 arrest
CVO Sprv. I K.L. Shewey Jr., 1 assist**
Tpr. M.L. Starmer, 4 arrests
Tpr. A.J. Webb, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.M. Wright, 1 arrest

Troop I

Tpr. C.M. Barclay, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.R. Capps, 1 arrest
Tpr. R.W. Clement, 2 arrests

Tpr. R.L. Crafton, 4 arrests
Tpr. I.A. Cox, 4 arrests
Sgt. S.W. Cunningham, 1 arrest
Cpl. L.D. DeClue, 3 arrests
Tpr. J.L. Dunmire, 5 arrests
Tpr. M.K. Eden, 1 arrest
Tpr. J.D. Fariole, 2 arrests
Cpl. J.R. McCurdy, 1 arrest
Sgt. M.L. Mobley, 1 arrest
Tpr. K.D. Rapier, 2 arrests
Tpr. R.A. Rizo, 2 arrests
Tpr. G.S. Sloan, 6 arrests
Tpr. N.A. Smith, 9 arrests
Tpr. T.D. Stewart, 1 arrest
Tpr. C.W. Tierney, 1 arrest
Tpr. R.A. Tyler, 3 arrests
Tpr. T.G. Zimmerman, 2 arrests

GHQ

Tpr. J.R. Johnston, Q/DDCC, 5 arrests
Tpr. J.R. Summers, Q/GSD, 3 arrests

New Operators Attend Training

By Chief Operator Roger D. Martin, Q/ICTD

The ICTD Communications Operations Section revised and updated the format of the initial training provided to newly hired communications operators. Instead of holding a three-week Academy, the training is scheduled in two parts—one is two weeks long and the second is a week in duration.

From August 31 through September 11, 2015, seven probationary communications operators completed the initial, two-week portion of the Communications Operator Academy hosted at the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy. They completed the public safety communications telecommunicator course and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) operator course. They also completed training and exercises covering administrative message writing, critical incident reporting, and standard Patrol communications procedures. Guest instructors Communications Operator III Kendra L. Shell, Troop E, Communications Operator III Tammy M. Christoffer, Troop B, and Assistant Chief Operator Eric W.



Probationary communications operators completing the initial part of training included: (back row, l to r) Abigail L. Howard (Troop H), Dawn C. Caton (Troop H), Amy M. Hinds (Troop D), Stephanie A. Follett (Troop F), David R. Caban (Troop F); (front row, l to r) Amy M. Fly (Troop D), Allison R. Humphrey (Troop F), Nicole D. Johnson (Troop D). Comm. Oper. III Kendra Shell (Troop E) served as an instructor and joined them in the photo.

Presser, Troop G, provided expert instruction in standards as well as insight into Patrol and troop procedures, and day-to-day operations.

The Communications Operations Section will host another initial, two-week course for new operators hired in January 2016. Both groups will at-

tend their third and final week in June 2016, to complete the Patrol Communications Operator Academy.

Please help us welcome each of our newly hired operators to our Highway Patrol family.

Training Tank Dedication Honors Tpr. Guthrie Jr.

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

In the room adjacent to the training tank, employees and guests gathered to dedicate the facility to Trooper Frederick F. Guthrie Jr. Captain Vince S. Rice, Q/TND, served as emcee for the event, which took place August 5, 2015. Retired Major Tommy Roam provided the invocation, which was then followed by the presentation of colors by the Troop F Color Guard. Their precise movements were impressive, even more so due to the small space they had in which to maneuver. Major Roam then used his rich voice to fill the future weight room with an acappella version of our national anthem.

Colonel J. Bret Johnson welcomed those present, which included Fred's wife, Teresa, and children, Amber, Dylan, and Cody, as well as his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Guthrie Sr. and sister, Wendy. Col. Johnson spoke of Fred's career with the Water Patrol and Highway Patrol, highlighting the Missouri Medal of Valor he accepted in 2008.

He received the award due to his brave actions on Smithville Lake. Fred responded after receiving information regarding a woman in distress. Fred found her clinging to a buoy in churning waters. He placed her in his boat and maneuvered the boat through

Mrs. Teresa Guthrie cuts the ribbon across the entrance to the training tank. She is accompanied by retired Col. Ron Replogle (left) and Col. J. Bret Johnson

turbulent water to shore where she could receive medical attention.

"Today, as we commemorate Fred's memory, we also renew our commitment to officer safety," said Col. Johnson. "All of our officers need to understand that the time they spend in this training tank is as important as the time they spend in the classroom."

Col. Johnson then introduced retired Colonel Ron Replogle as the keynote speaker.



"Fred disappeared on one of the hottest days of the year and we found him 160 days later on one of the coldest days of the year," said retired Col.

Replogle. "But, I want to talk about his life. He served the Missouri State Water Patrol for 17 years before joining the Missouri State Highway Patrol with the merger. While part of the Water Patrol, he was a firearms instructor, part of a K-9 team, and earned a DPS Employee of the Month award and State Employee of the month award."



The Guthrie children, Dylan, Cody, and Amber, assist Capt. Vince Rice, Q/TND, in removing the cover from the words dedicating the training tank in memory of Tpr. Fred Guthrie Jr. Mrs. Teresa Guthrie stands at left.

Ret. Col. Ron Replogle (l) and Col. J. Bret Johnson (r) stand with the Guthrie family: Cody, Amber, Dylan, Fred Sr., Betty, and Teresa.

The retired colonel went on to say that Fred was known for his love of his family.

Continued on the next page.



— Guthrie

Continued from page 29.

He loved watching his children play sports and was very proud of them. Fred also enjoyed hunting, fishing, and working out. To his co-workers, he was known as the “ultimate river warrior” for his work on the Missouri River.

Teresa Guthrie cut the ribbon across the door to the training tank. As the scissors snipped through the ribbon, warm applause showed the crowd’s heartfelt approval. The family, assisted by Capt. Rice, unveiled a plaque of Fred and K-9 Reed on the north wall of the room and a Patrol emblem and the words “Trooper Frederick F. Guthrie Jr. Memorial Training Tank” on the west wall.

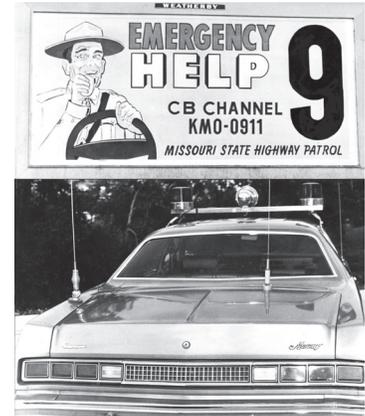
The training tank was part of the original Law Enforcement Academy construction. It provided a venue for marine enforcement training for the Patrol and other agencies until 2003, when it was closed due to the high cost of correcting maintenance issues. The tank was drained, beams placed across the pool, and sheeting laid down. Thus, the training tank was changed into a training room. The construction to repair the training tank also included a strength training and defensive tactics room adjacent to the training tank. These facilities will provide a convenient location for Patrol employees and other public safety personnel to receive invaluable water safety and tactical training.

“Every recruit that goes through this facility, every trooper that wears the blue uniform will train in this facility,” said retired Col. Replogle. “The troopers will always remember Fred’s name ... every trooper who swims in the pool will remember his name. His legacy will be remembered. Teresa, thank you. You have been the model of courage and strength for many over the past four years. Lt. Eldon Wulf (now retired) submitted the request to dedicate the training tank to Fred Guthrie. It was a great idea and it was easy to sign the paperwork.”

Looking Back ... in the Patrol News

40 years ago

September 1975 – Billboards like this one were placed throughout the state in 1975. Members of the Missouri Outdoor Advertising Association donated the space for 250 such safety posters. The posters informed the public of the CB channel number and call letters to be used to contact the Missouri State Highway Patrol for emergency help. Communications personnel installed CB mobile units into all field patrol cars and placed base stations in all nine troop headquarters.



30 years ago

October 1985 – This photo shows Weight Inspectors Paul Heintz and Loris Roberts, Troop H, weighing a new ambulance medical helicopter, Research Eagle. The helicopter was based at Research Hospital in Kansas City, MO. Our employees were asked to weigh the new helicopter, which they did. Scales were placed next to the skids, then the aircraft hovered up and onto the scales. The bird weighed 3,050 pounds.



20 years ago

September 1995 – The always popular Patrol History Trivia article included this chart comparing uniform prices.

| Prices: Then & Now | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| | 1939 | 1995 |
| Blouse | \$23.20 | \$197.50 |
| Service Cap | \$3.35 | NA |
| Long Sleeve Shirt | \$6.35 | \$69.85 |
| Short Sleeve Shirt | NA | \$63.50 |
| Breeches | \$14.10 | Pants \$71.00 |
| Overcoat | \$30.50 | Thermal Coat \$132.30 |
| Hat (felt) | | \$53.90 |
| Hat (straw) | | \$30.20 |

10 years ago

September/October 2005 – In this issue, we paid tribute to our fallen hero, Cpl. John A. “Jay” Sampietro Jr. Auto. Tech. III Wayne L. Fordham and Auto. Tech. III Sean D. Jacobs accepted July 2005 DPS Employees of the Month awards for their work in the Motor Equipment Division. Stories about the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Special Olympics, and Missouri State Fair also appeared in this issue.

Congratulations On Your Retirement!



Lisa D. Swafford
DE Sprv.
Troop F

*Retired March 1, 2015.
30 years, six months of
dedicated service.*



Jerry L. Jenkins
MVI Supervisor
Troop F

*Retired August 1, 2015.
25 years, six months, of
dedicated service.*

Jeanne V. Livers
CITS II
Q/TND

*Retired August 1, 2015.
10 years, 11 months of
dedicated service.*



Mike A. Bernier
Sergeant
Q/GSD

*Retired September 1, 2015.
25 years, eight months of
dedicated service.*



Scott R. Bigham
Section Chief
Q/ICTD

*Retired September 1, 2015.
26 years, seven months of
dedicated service.*



Vince H. Buckner
Technician I
Q/CJISD

*Retired September 1, 2015.
14 years of dedicated service.*

Steve D. Groves
Asst. Chief Operator
Troop I

*Retired September 1, 2015.
27 years, 10 months of
dedicated service.*



Dan L. Ripperger
Corporal
Q/GD

*Retired September 1, 2015.
28 years, two months of
dedicated service.*



Congratulations On Your Retirement!



E. DeWayne Rucker
Sergeant
Q/GSD

*Retired September 1, 2015.
36 years, eight months of
dedicated service.*



Dave D. Spurgeon
Sergeant
Troop F

*Retired September 1, 2015.
25 years, eight months of
dedicated service.*

Retiree News

Retiree Becomes World Champion Horseshoe Pitcher

By Sgt. Brent J. Bernhardt, Troop B

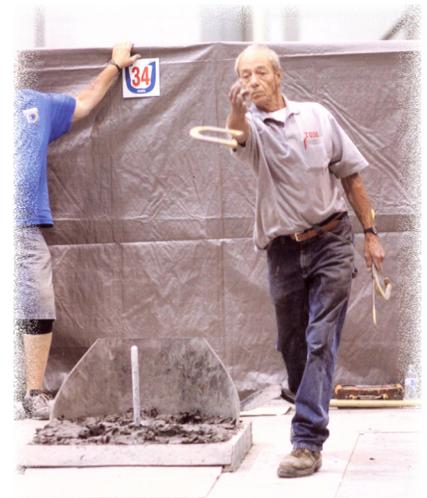
Retired Troop B Sergeant Tom Lehmann, of Kirksville, MO, recently competed in the World Horseshoe Tournament in Topeka, KS. The event, sponsored by the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, was held from July 13, 2015, through July 25, 2015, and over 1,400 pitchers competed. Each competitor pitched five games for three days. During the tournament, retired Sgt. Lehmann won 12 out of 15 games and tied one game. At the conclusion of the tournament, retired Sgt. Lehman was named the class M-2 World Champion Horseshoe pitcher.

Retired Sgt. Lehmann has been pitching horseshoes since 2006. He said he has always liked individual sports and throwing horseshoes has become a passion for him. To qualify for the World Championship Tournament, competitors must participate in at least

four sanctioned events. The class you compete in is determined by a ringer percentage. Retired Sgt. Lehmann said he is 74 years of age, and although national horseshoe rules allow competitors over the age of 70 to throw at a reduce distance of 30 feet, he has always pitched from the standard 40 feet. He is a member of the NEMO Horseshoe Club in Kirksville, and the Capital City Horseshoe Club in Jefferson City.

Sgt. Lehmann retired from the Missouri State Highway Patrol in 1996,

after serving over 30 years in Troop B. When he retired, he was the zone commander of Zone 5, Kirksville.



Retired Sgt. Tom Lehmann pitches a horseshoe during the World Horseshoe Tournament in Topeka, KS.



Pictured are the World Horseshoe Tournament champions. Retired Sgt. Tom Lehmann is in the second row, third from the right.

Deaths

Julian F. LePage



Mr. Julian F. "Fuzz" LePage, of Warroad, MN, went to glory on July 10, 2015, after a long illness.

Fuzz was born on April 14, 1935, in Jefferson City, MO, to the late Henry and Elora LePage. He married Carol (Remick) October 20, 1956, and to this union five children were born.

He was a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper, proudly serving Troop H in Trenton, MO, rising to corporal before leaving in 1973, to follow his passion of flying. In 1973, He purchased Swede Carlson' and Don Hanson's flying services in Warroad, and began serving the resorts of Lake of the Woods and others in Canada. He later became the principal owner of Kusko Aviation in Quinhagak, Alaska, and flew there until he retired and moved back to Warroad, to manage the Warroad Airport. He loved wintering in Lake Havasu City, AZ, and telling stories.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three children, Julia, Jeffrey, and Henry; brothers, John and David, and sisters, Elora (Sissy) and Emily.

He leaves behind his faithful wife, Carol; his son, John (and his wife, Marci); his daughter, Jeanne; five grandchildren, Shane (and his wife, Katie), Patrick and Kevin Thompson, Melodi LePage, and Trista McDaniel (and her husband, Tom); four great-

grandchildren; two brothers, Paul and Tom; as well as a host of family and friends that will dearly miss him.

A mass of Christian burial for Fuzz took place Wednesday, July 15, 2015, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Warroad. Visitation was Tuesday, July 14, with a prayer service at Helgeson Funeral Home in Warroad. Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery with military honors provided by the Warroad American Legion. The family indicated memorials may be made to the local "Walk to Remember," Roseau Alzheimer's Chapter in care of Paula Peterson/Jill Wulff.

The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the LePage family.

(Reprinted with permission from the Helgeson Funeral Home, Warroad, MN.)

George L. Taylor



George L. Taylor, 83, of Union, MO, died Wednesday, August 12, 2015, at his home.

Mr. Taylor, the son of the late James Taylor and his wife, Ina (nee Coyner), was born October 26, 1931, in St. Louis. On June 27, 1959, he was united in marriage to Rhoda JoAnn Brooks in St. Louis.

Mr. Taylor served his country in the United States Navy until his retire-

ment after 27 years. He went on to work as a Missouri State Highway Patrol commercial vehicle inspector for 15 years, until his retirement in 1994.

He was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church of Union, and an active volunteer. He was also a 60-year member of the Masonic Lodge in Union, and member of Clowns of America International, where he volunteered his time as a clown named Swabbie. As a snare drummer he played for the Kitchen Band in Union.

Mr. Taylor was preceded in death by his parents, James and Ina Taylor, and one brother, Frank Taylor.

He is survived by his wife, Rhoda JoAnn Taylor, of Union; one son, Gregory Taylor (and his wife, Patti), of Union; one daughter, Constance Kluba (and her husband, Dale), of Krakow, MO; one brother, Carl Taylor (and his wife, Frayne), of St. Peters; one sister, Helen Lape, of Virginia; six grandchildren, Amber Difatta (and her husband, Joseph Sr.), Tony Taylor, Jimmy Taylor, Katie Taylor, Sheena Hawkins (and her husband, Ricky), and Shannah Peterson (and her husband, Richard); six great-grandchildren, Joseph Difatta Jr., Skyla Difatta, Brett Hawkins, Annah Hawkins, Haddie Hawkins, and Isabella Peterson; nieces; nephews; other relatives; and many friends.

The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Taylor family.

(Reprinted with permission from Midlawn Funeral Home & Memorial Gardens Cemetery.)

Deaths

N. Lee Hoeflicker



Norman Lee Hoeflicker, 82, of Lexington, MO, died Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2015, at Centerpoint Medical Center, Independence, MO.

Lee Hoeflicker was born August 26, 1932, the son of William M. and Mary Alice (Smith) Hoeflicker. He married Virginia Heimer July 5, 1952; she preceded him in death April 21, 2000.

Lee was a driver examiner supervisor for the Missouri State Highway Patrol for 37 years before retirement. He was a member of the Lexington Elks Club, Duck's Unlimited, and the Lexington Booster Club. He officiated 38 years for both basketball and football, and was the timekeeper for Lexington wrestling for many years. Lee was an avid gardener, hunter, fisherman, and mushroom hunter, and loved all things sports.

Lee is survived by four children: Pat Simpson (and her husband, Randy), of Lexington, Amy Meyers, of Lexington, Melissa Blubaugh (and her husband, Randy), of Keller, Texas, and Randy Hoeflicker, of Marshall; a brother, Gary Hoeflicker, of Independence, MO; five sisters, Margie D'Aurelio, of Lexington, Mary Jo Prince, of Raytown, MO, Helen Burkhart, of Independence, Bonnie Lane, of Independence, and Virginia Pessetto, of California; a special friend, Shirley Rodekohr, of Lexington; 13 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

In addition to his wife, Virginia, Lee was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Danny; a brother, Billy Bob; and two sons-in-law, Freeman Johnson and Tim Meyers.

Services took place Saturday, August 22, 2015, at Walker-Nadler-Fuller Funeral Home, Lexington. Burial occurred in Lexington Memory Gardens. Memorials may be made in Lee's memory to a scholarship fund at Lexington High School.

The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Hoeflicker family.

(Reprinted with permission from the Walker-Nadler-Fuller Funeral Home, Lexington.)

Kenneth C. Kerns



Retired Lieutenant Kenneth C. Kerns, 91, died August 19, 2015, in Harlingen, Texas. Kenneth was born and reared on a farm near Parkville, MO, that is now in the city of Weatherby Lake, MO. He graduated from Parkville High School in 1942, and was a veteran of World War II. In January 1943, he was inducted into the Army Air Force (Air Transportation Command). After training as a flight radio operator/mechanic, he was stationed in Cairo, Egypt, and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He was honorably discharged in January 1946.

Kenneth was appointed chief deputy sheriff of Platte County, MO, in 1947. In 1950, he became a commercial motor vehicle inspector with the Missouri State Highway Patrol. He was selected to attend the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy as a member of the 12th Recruit Class in November 1951. Upon graduation, Kenneth was assigned to Troop A, Zone 2, Platte and Clay counties. In 1959, he transferred to Troop A Headquarters as a desk officer. He was promoted to sergeant in 1962, and to lieutenant in 1969. In 1976, Kenneth transferred to General Headquarters in Jefferson City, as liaison officer to the Department of Public Safety before being designated director of the Traffic Accident Section. He retired as a lieutenant in January 1981. Kenneth spent the summers in Jamesport, MO, and winters in Paradise Resort Park in Harlingen, TX.

Survivors include two sons, Kenneth Jr. (and his wife, Sandy), of Parkville, MO, and James (and his wife, Jana), of Blue Springs, MO. One son, Michael, is deceased. He is also survived by five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Services took place August 24, 2015, in Kansas City, with burial in Parkville.

The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Kerns family.

(Reprinted with permission from the family.)

November

Nov. 1



• **Central Standard Time** begins at 2 a.m.

Nov. 11
Nov. 26

• **Veterans' Day**
• **Thanksgiving**

“There is something about the MSHP, when you arrive on the scene. People recognize you as the premiere agency in the state ... There is a good argument for the best in the nation. Thank you for the work you have done. Please accept my personal gratitude and admiration.”

— *DPS Director
Lane Roberts,
GHQ troop meeting
September 18, 2015.*

Thank You

On behalf of the Becker and Blossom families: We cannot begin to thank everyone for the generous support shown to both families during our time of loss. We were comforted by the many kind words, prayers, and other acts of kindness shown following Mari Lee's passing.

*Sincerely,
Cpl. Bruce A. Becker, Q/GD*

My family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and support upon the passing of my mother.

Cpl. Robert West, Troop A

On behalf of the Quigley family, we would like to thank everyone

for your cards, thoughts, and prayers following the death of our mother (mother-in-law) Virginia Quigley. A special thank you to the Field Operation Bureau personnel who attended the visitation. It meant a great deal to us that you took the time out of your busy schedules to attend. We are truly blessed to be part of this Patrol family.

May God bless each and every one of you!!

Mr. John T. & Special Asst. Tamie L. Quigley, Q/FOB

On behalf of the Kerns family, I would like to thank the Patrol family for the thoughts and prayers following the death of retired Lieutenant Kenneth C. Kerns. I would especially like to thank Captain Scott A. Shippers, Sergeant Erik L. Hurst, and the other Troop A officers who participated in my father's funeral service.

*Deputy Chief Jim Kerns, Platte Woods Police Department
Mr. Kenny Kerns Jr., Parkville, MO*

Sympathy

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

Ret. CVO Sprv. I Roger L. Woodhurst - mother

Clerk Typist III Karen D. Bowland (A) - mother-in-law

Tpr. Bradley R. Muck (H) - grandmother

Cpl. Allen R. Flannery (C) - father
DE III Jordan L. Stallcup (D) - stepmother

Tpr. Chase A. Stallcup (D) - mother-in-law

CJIS Tech. III Amanda J. Flippin (Q/CJISD) - grandmother

Cpl. Bruce A. Becker (Q/GD) - daughter

Criminalist Ruth Montgomery (Q/CLD) - mother-in-law

Ret. Section Chief Darrel L. Nichols - father

Tpr. G. Dan Oetting (A) - mother-in-law
Tpr. Kimberly D. House (Q/GD) - grandfather

Spec. Asst. Tamie L. Quigley (Q/FOB) - mother-in-law

CVO Sprv. I Randy K. Cooper (E) - mother

Clerk IV Carla J. Flickinger (Q/MVI) - uncle

Tpr. Becky L. Eagan (Q/GD) - mother

Tpr. James E. Conway (I) - father
CVE Insp. II Brenda K. McIntyre (I) - father

DE Chief Darla L. Conway (I) - father-in-law

CVO Sprv. I Linda J. Stafford (D) - father

Sgt. Joe M. Weadon (Q/FOB) - grandfather-in-law

Tpr. Ronald A. Metteer II (C) - father
Sgt. Mark A. Ott (H) - father-in-law

Recruiting: 1-800-796-7000

Email: mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov

Home Page: <http://www.mshp.dps.mo.gov>

Classmates Remember Tpr. Bava

By Tpr. Chad M. Barclay, Troop I

James and I were roommates during the second trimester. We were in different squads throughout the day, so we spent our time in the evenings talking about our day while we polished our boots, ironed our uniforms, etc. We took that time to reminisce about the days prior to the Academy when we didn't have to make our beds, and looked forward to the days after graduation. No one ever called James simply by his last name without trying to impersonate (terribly) Sgt. [Geoff L.] Borlinghaus' rendition (BAAAVAAAAA). I am thankful for getting a chance to meet James and know he will always be remembered.

By Tpr. Taggart L. Holston, Troop A

What I remember most about Bava was his charity. I never heard him say a bad word about anyone in the Academy, even though there were plenty of opportunities. We weren't partnered up too often, but the times we were I always remember fondly.

The strongest memory I have of Bava is the day we all got OC'd in the face. Bava ended up getting OC'd later than some of us; he had to assist with the soap and towels in the beginning.

Tpr. James M. Bava is seen here during recruit training stop and approach exercises.

It was a particularly cold day and none of us were looking forward to having our faces and eyes feel like they were on fire. Some of us got sprayed more than others, and when it was my turn I had a very healthy dosage. I got done, went over to wash my eyes out, and wandered over so I could face into the wind. I'm not sure if anyone else had the same experience I did, but I found it to be a very lonely experience. My face was on fire,



my eyes couldn't open, I was short of breath, and I was freezing. Bava had come over to check on me and asked if I was doing alright. I responded with an obligatory, "Yeah," but when Bava tried to walk back I grabbed his arm and held onto him for a bit. He responded, "It's okay, I'm here, I'm not going anywhere." I don't remember the pain of that day anymore, I just remember Bava staying with me. I wish he was here now.



Tpr. James M. Bava participates in firearms training as a member of the 97th Recruit Class.