



# WSPAA QUARTERLY

Volume 3

March 2012

## WSPAA CONTINUES TO GROW

The Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association (WSPAA) continues to grow and develop. As of the writing of this article we have 105 members and continue to grow every month. Two of these are Honorary members as approved by the Board of Directors at their last meeting. The Honorary members are Superintendent Fitzgerald and Colonel Mendez. They were approved as Honorary members for the duration of their term in their respective positions for their encouragement, assistance and support of the WSPAA.

We will continue to recruit additional members. We ask for your assistance. The WSPAA was formed to include **current** and **former** State Patrol employees. ANY current employee, in any job classification can be a member of the WSPAA as long as the person has completed their initial probation. Any PAST employee whether retired or they chose to move on to another agency or occupation, can be a member as long as they were in good standing at the time they left the Division.

The membership dues are \$15 per year. An application form is attached to this newsletter. Please pass the word. There are large numbers of potential members. Word of mouth is a great tool for recruitment. We appreciate you telling your friends and fellow WSPAA potential members.

The WSPAA is still looking for a couple Regional Coordinators for the SE Region, the NC Region and the NE Region. The Regional Representatives will serve as a local contact for the WSPAA. They will coordinate a regional summer social event, work on membership additions and retention, submit newsworthy items to the WSPAA newsletter and maintain contact with the Regional State Patrol Commanders to coordinate activities when possible. The persons we are looking for would enjoy talking to people and reminiscing/remembering the “good old days”. If you are interested in this type of volunteer activity, please contact President Bill Harvey at [w401@aol.com](mailto:w401@aol.com).

As you can see, a lot has happened and it’s only going to get better. We look forward to additional members through your efforts.

As you will see in this issue, some of the special events are beginning to take shape. The plans are not yet final. We hope you will take advantage of these. The organization is only as strong as its members. Read on for more information.

**Bill Harvey**

**WSPAA President**

We have been told this photo was taken at the Badger Ordinance facility in 1942. If you can identify the players, please drop a note to [bjyoung@charter.net](mailto:bjyoung@charter.net)



Breathalyzer Training—1968





# RETIRED OFFICER CONCEALED CARRY CERTIFICATION COURSE - By Sgt Bob DeFrang

On January 17, 2012 the Division of State Patrol held its first Retired Officer Concealed Carry Certification Course. Twenty-one Retired Officers attended the training with qualifying. The attendees varied in years of separation from the Division as well as the type of weapons used for the qualification. Three retired officers qualified with the revolver, 12 with the semi-automatic and 6 qualified to carry multiple weapon types. The training began at 1:00 in classroom 3 of the Academy building with the live fire qualification training taking place in the indoor range (25 round course of fire). The classroom portion of the program contained information on:

- Review of the use of force aspects while carrying concealed
- Review of target requirements while firing
- The pro's and con's between the retired officer certification and the Wisconsin concealed carry license
- Form completion, collection and photos for the identification card
- Demonstration of drawing, disassembly and reassembly of the various weapons for which certification was requested
- Review of the qualification course requirements and course of fire
- Requirements to maintain certification (annually)

The program lasted just over 2 hours. A large portion of the program was provided to retirees on-line. Because of the on-line aspect, training time needed to complete the program was reduced significantly. Retired officers were encouraged to download information they deemed relevant and for future reference.

As with anything new, there was a learning curve involved during the process, but over-all everything went fairly smooth. As a result of some of the things that came to light during the initial certification program, several changes will be made for the April qualification process. The following steps will outline the process for the next qualification:

Visit the Academy web site at: <http://wspa.mrooms3.net>, or contact the Academy registrar at 608.269.2500 Ext. 3101 in order to download the program registration form.

Ensure you are eligible (Review the certification requirements on the website)

Once registered, if you provide an email address, you will be contacted by email and allowed to access the Retired LEO on line course. If you do not have an email address and/or access to the internet, a hard copy of the online program will be mailed to you, sometime prior to the qualification date.

### **On the day of Qualification:**

- Bring the "Statement of Verification form" with you.
- Complete the Qualification program form (skills, cognitive exam and live fire qualification results) and leave it for the program director.
- Get your photo taken at the Academy.
- Pay the \$15.00 certification card fee (Check; payable to DOT, or cash) at this time Debit or Credit cards are not accepted.

### **After the Qualification:**

- Wait 7 to 10 days for your card to be mailed to the address you provided on your registration form.

**Qualification dates set for the remainder of 2012, are April 18, July 19, October 19 and during the Retiree Day Get Together in September (if held at the Academy).** Currently all qualifications will be conducted at the Academy. If you are interested in obtaining a Division Concealed Carry Certification, you will need to be registered for the program at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled qualification date.

If you have any questions regarding the Retired Officer Concealed Carry Certification, feel free to call the Office of the Academy and speak with either Captain Christopher Neuman or Sergeant Robert DeFrang. Stay Safe.

# **WSP HIGHWAY CRIMINAL INTERDICTION PROGRAM— WITH CANINES –By Lt Paul Matl**

Many of us are familiar with the WSP Highway Criminal Interdiction Program in place for many years to remove drugs being transported across our highways. That program was revitalized in 2004 to bring its importance back to the enforcement personnel.

In conjunction with that revitalization, an energized group of State Patrol personnel developed 13 recommendations to improve the program for the Division Command Staff. One of those recommendations was the use of canines.

Research was done. Issue papers were written and draft policies developed toward the implementation of several K9 teams. In June 2006, final approval was obtained to implement five K9 teams for drug detection in the DSP. The funding for the units was obtained through MCSAP funding with the US Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). FMCSA was also concerned with the use of commercial motor vehicles being used to transport large amounts of drugs on out highways. Similar programs were in place in other states already.

In August 2006, the first five K9 teams were selected — 1 Sergeant, 3 Inspectors and 1 Trooper would staff this effort. In October 2006, these officers participated in 5 weeks of training with their new partners in Albuquerque, NM. In December 2006, the new teams were placed into service. They were assigned in the following Posts: DeForest, Tomah, Wausau, Eau Claire, and Fond du Lac. In October 2007, an additional team was added in the Waukesha Post. In June 2009, the K9 teams were reorganized into a single troop. In June 2010, an additional K9 team was added to the Green Bay area and in November 2010 an explosives K9 team was added. This brings the total to seven narcotics detection teams and one explosives detection K9 team for a total of eight K9 teams statewide. This is one of the largest K9 units of any department in the state.

The explosive detection K9 team has been utilized numerous times for dignitary protection details, all of the 2011 Wisconsin Badger home football games in Madison, during demonstrations/protests at the Capitol, bomb threat searches at schools and in random checks during military and other civic events.

Several of the K9 teams are trained in tracking and have been used occasionally for searching for missing persons and fleeing suspects.

Originally, the cost of a K9 was about \$5000 per animal. In the short time this program has been in operation, that price has nearly doubled. The time and dedication to keeping and training a K9 is enormous for the officer.

In May 2010, the Wisconsin State Patrol formed a partnership with the Minnesota State Patrol (MSP) in which the WSP provides technical crash reconstruction training to selected MSP personnel in exchange for K9 training for WSP personnel. This has turned out to be very beneficial and cost effective to both agencies. At some time in the future WSP may attempt to have someone trained as a K9 trainer and offer K9 training at the WSP Academy.

WSP K9 teams have performed nearly 6100 searches. There have been nearly 1500 drug related seizures. To date, the units have been involved in the seizure of over \$1,248,120 in US Currency.

On November 20, 2007, a WSP K9 team was involved in the seizure of 1048 pounds of marijuana from a commercial motor vehicle at the West Salem SWEF. This turned out to be the largest single seizure ever made in Western Wisconsin.

On April 13, 2010, a WSP K9 team seized \$489,000 in US currency from a commercial motor vehicle. The follow-up investigation has lead to multiple arrests in Wisconsin, Minnesota and California.

The addition of K9 teams to the State Patrol has been very productive. This is another service available to county and municipal agencies upon request.



Tpr McCarthy and his partner "Ella"

Sgt Matl & Insp Peterson with drugs seized at the West Salem SWEF— K9 partner "Ella"



# WHERE ARE THEY TODAY? HOWARD FURHMAN

By Bruce Bishop and George Eder

On Feb 26th Captain Howard Fuhrman (ret) and a small group of friends celebrated his 98th birthday at his home in Iron River Wi.

Howard began his law enforcement career in 1938 as a Bayfield County Traffic officer and from there forward his career spans forty-five years. First with the county; then WWII service in the Army in The South Pacific; concluding with twenty-five years as a State Trooper.

In 1955 Fuhrman was selected to attend the first class of the Academy and then rapidly rose from Sergeant to Lieutenant to Captain and District 4 Commander of the Wausau Post . Where he remained until his retirement in 1973. He then returned to a rustic cabin that he built in the 1940's on Buskey Bay in Iron River.

Howard was and still is a great cook and hosted many State and District Staff meetings, at the cabin, preparing fish fries for dozens of guests and providing the social amenities that went with them.

Howard has outlived two wives and many of his WSP associates . He had no children but Howard treated every person who worked with and for him as one of his own.

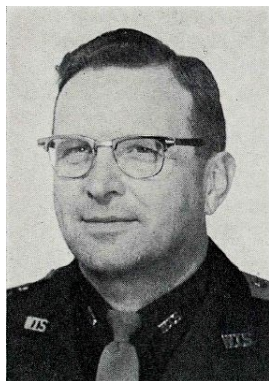
The old cabin is still his home during the mild months where he fishes in Buskey Bay and enjoys his gardening. Winters challenges find him at an assisted living facility .

Howard is in good health, still driving and continues to enjoy almost 40 years of retirement. He'd like to hear from old friends and associates.

Howard's Home address: 9425 South Buskey Bay Road, Iron River WI 54847

Winter address :Willow Manor Assisted Living, 68290 District St. Iron River, WI 54847

Phone: 715 372 5005      willowmanor@cheqnet.net



Capt Furhman—photo believed to be taken in 1964



Capt Furham at his 98th birthday gathering—Feb 26,



Prevention of this is what is all about. They happened in 1940 and continue today.

SUPPORT YOU STATE PATROL!

Visit our website: [www.wspalumni.org](http://www.wspalumni.org)



# IN THE WORKS ~ WSPAA REGIONAL SUMMER SOCIALS

By Lucy Harvey

Get out your map and prepare for summer regional fun the WSPAA way. Each month we will visit one of Wisconsin's pretty areas to enjoy an activity and to spend time together reconnecting. Members are invited to cross regional boundaries and go anywhere in the state. Come on along !

## **WSPAA Takes Flight to the AirVenture Museum on May 30, 2012 (See attachment)**

On May 30, we will go to the unique AirVenture Museum - home of experimental airplanes of all sorts as well as vintage planes. It's always fun to see what the human mind can contrive, so let's enjoy learning about these unique designs as we spend time together. Contact Bill Harvey W401@aol.com for details.

## **So Much to Do; So Little Time – June Fun at Chula Vista**

June will take us to the lovely Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Folks will have time for an indoor water-park dip, a ride through Lost Canyon, a thrilling ride on the amphibious Original Ducks, or nine holes of golf at Chula Vista. We'll make time for an early dinner together before we head home.

## **Cruising Round the Golf Course or Cruising Down the River in July**

In July the Northcentral Region invites you to Tomahawk for a golf outing at Inshalla Country Club and/or to Rhinelander for the Wisconsin River Wilderness Cruise and the Logging Museum. We'll have supper together at the Country Club before departing for home.

## **WSPAA Coordinates Bed & Breakfast Train Ride in Spooner Area in August**

In August, join other WSPAA members on a unique bed and breakfast railroad adventure in NW Wisconsin. Reserve your spot on the Spooner Train Ride. Their web site is [www.spoonertrainride.com](http://www.spoonertrainride.com)

Check In 4 – 5:30 pm, 4 Drink Tokens ~ Cash Bar, Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres, 6:00 pm Departure ~ 3-4 hour train ride, Dinner on a Moving Train, 5-course Meal ~ 4 Entrée Choices, Relax in Private Lounge, Private Upper & Lower Double Bedroom, Hot Breakfast in Morning, 10 am Check Out

If we can get a group of 5 couples or more, the price would be \$239/ couple. This looks like a great outing, rather inexpensive. Leave depot at 6 p.m. Limit 18 couples.

For more information, contact Tim Heffernan at: [Tim Heffernan \(tprtim@charter.net\)](mailto:tprtim@charter.net)



# EVENTS

May 30, 2012 - WSPAA Day at AirVenture Museum, Oshkosh, WI

September 14, 2012 - 2012 WSP Alumni Luncheon (planned), Wisconsin State Patrol Academy.

## Regularly Scheduled Gatherings:

First Thursday of the Month - Anyone retired from the State Patrol is invited. This is an informal gathering, no reservations needed, just show up at 9:00 am at the Green Lantern, McFarland, WI.

Last Thursday of Even Numbered Months - WISDOT/DNR Retiree Breakfast at 9:30 am at "The Prime" in Trego, WI. Contact Tim Heffernan (tpretim@charter.net).

Monthly— ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) - contact Larry Doxrude for date, time and location. Everyone welcome. Larry Doxrude <ldoxrude@charter.net>

If you know of additional events or gatherings of State Patrol alumni, please let us know so we can post it for all to see or attend. Send these items to byoung@charter.net. Send items in as soon as you hear of them. Thank you.

## ORGANIZATIONAL INFO

### OFFICERS:

Bill Harvey, President

Bruce Bishop, Vice-President

Janet Sabatke, Secretary

Lyle Bliss, Treasurer

### BY-LAWS CHAIR:

Maynard Stoehr

### WEBMASTER:

Diane King

### REGIONAL REPS:

SW: Mike Jennings, Phil Wenzel

SE: Vacant

NW: Tim Heffernan, Joe Gustafson

NC: Vacant

NE: Vacant

### NEWSLETTER:

Janet Sabatke

Frieda Haesler

Bob Young

## WSPAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Last or Current DSP Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Paid : \_\_\_\_\_ Full Member OR \_\_\_\_\_ Associate Member: \$15/year - (Check one)

Return to WSPAA, 7801 Brule Street, Madison, WI 53717-1833

Membership Contacts: Janet Sabatke: 608-833-5580 Lyle Bliss: 608-931-4060

Email: WSPAlumni.Association@gmail.com

