



WSPAA QUARTERLY

Volume 4
August 2012

WSPAA CONTINUES TO GROW

Greetings WSPAA Members.

Our Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association has enjoyed a very productive first year. Membership topped 150 with more joining each week.

- Membership brochures are now available at each Post headquarters and the Academy, so please tell other retirees about the opportunity to stay connected;
- The newsletter continues to be the most informative, popular, and effective communications tool/service;
- Our informative website www.wspalumni.org is up and running and contains a great deal of information;
- We have designed a polo shirt which we can call our own and will be available through our merchandising project. Check out those wearing the shirt at Alumni Day at the Academy;
- WSPAA worked in conjunction with the Academy to provide firearms training for retirees wanting to be certified under the Retired Law Enforcement Officer Program authorized by federal legislation;
- Regions held periodic coffees, lunches, and dinners;
- WSPAA sponsored five Regional Summer Socials: WSPAA Day at the AirVenture Museum in Oshkosh, Chula Vista Resort Days, Tomahawk Historical Tour and Golf Outing, and the Spooner Train Bed and Breakfast & party time.

Our first official WSPAA membership meeting will take place on Alumni Day at the Academy on Friday, September 14, from 2:30 – 3:30. Submit names of people who would be willing to run for office. Also, bring your ideas to the Academy so we can continue to develop a healthy and strong Alumni Association with members' input and involvement. The Association is whatever you make of it; so let's hear your ideas.

WSPAA's fiscal year is from September to September, so pay your \$15 for 2012 - 2013 dues to Lyle Bliss, Treasurer at 927 Nantucket, Janesville, WI 53546-1759.

We look forward to a great turn-out for the real old-timers who served the WSP in various positions/roles. See you there!

Bill Harvey

WSPAA President

W401@aol.com

Alumni Luncheon—Just like coming home again!



Converting Your Group Life Insurance To Pay Health or Long-Term Care Insurance Premiums

Recently, this item (copied directly from the website) was found on the Employee Trust Fund webpage. I do not know if everyone else already knew this or if I was absent from school on this day. Either way, it seemed like something that may be of interest to some alumni. IF this is something of interest to you, contact the ETF for clarification or question. Don't be afraid to ask the specialists at ETF. It is your retirement account. This article reads:

“Active employees age 70 or older and retirees who are insured under both the Wisconsin Public Employers Group Life Insurance Program and one of the health insurance plans or long-term care plans offered by the Department of Employee Trust Funds can elect to convert their life insurance to pay health or long-term care insurance premiums. The health insurance plans offered by Employee Trust Funds are the plan available to state employees, the plan available to employees of local government employers who elect to participate in our health insurance plan, and the Local Annuitant Health Program. Long-term care plans are offered by ETF to state employees only. You cannot convert your life insurance to pay the premiums for any other health or long-term care insurance coverage.

To be eligible, your basic life insurance coverage must be at its final reduced amount. If you are retired from the state you must be at least age 66, and if you are retired from a local government employer you must be either age 66 or 67, depending on whether your basic life insurance coverage reduces to 50% or 25% of the original amount after retirement. If you are retired from the state your sick leave credits must be exhausted before you can convert your life insurance to pay health insurance premiums.

If you elect this conversion, your life insurance coverage will be converted to credits equal to the present value of your life insurance. The present value ranges from about 45% to 80% of the face amount, depending on your age. Your converted life insurance credits will be used to pay your health insurance premiums until the credits are exhausted. You cannot receive any direct cash payment.

You may file the election to convert your life insurance at any time, and it will become effective on the beginning of the third month after we receive it. The brochure *Converting Your Group Life Insurance to Pay Health Premiums (ET-2325)* provides detailed information on this subject.” The link to the brochure is: <http://etf.wi.gov/publications/et2325.pdf>

ETF Governing Board Information

Have you ever wondered who makes the decisions of the ETF? What are the governing Boards discussing at their meetings? Here is a little information to find these and other answers.

There are five Boards of Trustees associated with the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF). The Boards set policy and review the overall administration of the benefit programs provided for state and local government employees. Board membership is set by state law. Members attend meetings in Madison and influence ETF's direction by voicing member concerns, identifying ways to improve service to participants and employers, and prioritizing available resources to meet competing administrative needs. The five Boards are:

Employee Trust Funds Board; Wisconsin Retirement Board; Teachers Retirement Board; Group Insurance Board; Deferred Compensation Board.

To learn more about each of these Boards, their members, meeting agendas, etc. go to:

http://etf.wi.gov/gov_boards.htm



Wisconsin State Patrol ALUMNI LUNCHEON

Wisconsin State Patrol alumni and their families are cordially invited:

WHEN: Friday, September 14, 2012

TIME: 11:30 a.m. Lunch (cafeteria)
1:00 p.m. Program (Multi-purpose Room)

WHERE: Wisconsin State Patrol Academy

95 South Tenth Avenue

Fort McCoy, WI 54656

Cost for lunch is \$8.50 per person

Payable to: Department of Transportation, prior to September 1, 2012

Return this portion-The cost for the luncheon is \$8.50 per person.

Please respond no later than September 1, 2012

Make your check payable to: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Number in attendance: _____ x \$8.50 = Amount enclosed: _____

Name(s): _____

(Print)

Return this portion to:

Wisconsin State Patrol Academy

Attn: Lori Beiswanger

95 South Tenth Avenue

Fort McCoy, WI 54656



ALUMNI LUNCHEON EVENT

September 14, 2012

AGENDA

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni (WSPAA) Business Meeting	Board Members Only
11:30 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch/Networking	All
1:00 – 1:15 p.m.	Welcome/Opening Comments Division Update	Superintendent Fitzgerald/ Colonel Mendez
1:15 – 2:30 p.m.	WSPA Update & Demonstration Open Discussion/Q & A	Captain Neuman All
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association (WSPAA) General Membership Meeting	All Major Bruce Bishop (<i>retired</i>)
3:30 p.m.	Meeting Adjourned Fellowship on your own	
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Retired Law Enforcement Officer Qualification	By Registration Only

REMEMBER:

Fort McCoy Guards will inspect identification of each vehicle occupant at the Main Gate:

No admission will be granted without compliance.

2013 Alumni Day, Friday, September 13

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

by Bruce Bishop

Retired Sergeant Don Jones (7th Recruit Class) was 31 years old when he joined WSP in 1958. Twenty one years later his twenty year old son Tom (28th Recruit Class) pinned on his badge. Don retired as a District #3 Sergeant in 1982 after 28 years of service. Tom retired in 2011 with 8 days short of 33 years of service. A combined 60 years of public service. Sgt. Jones is one of the charter members of WSPAA with a membership date of Sept. 2011. Trooper Tom Jones joined the WSPAA two months later.

Don is remembered by those who worked with and for him as a “no nonsense” dedicated law enforcement professional with a good sense of humor. He tells a funny story of a faultless driving record blemished only by a bull that broke loose from a cattle barn and pushed a trailer into his unmarked cruiser, several times. A few months later, he had his unmarked cruiser parked by the barn in his yard when a wind storm blew a barn door off the track and onto the cruiser.

Today Don lives alone, his wife of 30 years, Alberta, mother of Tom and four siblings died in 1984. He makes Wild Rose home during the summer and winters find him in Lakeland, FL. A nagging shoulder problem and broken vertebrae have forced him into an ALF temporarily. His current address is Rosemore Village, 830 High Street, Wild Rose, WI 54984. He'd enjoy hearing from old acquaintances.

Tom served most of his years in the Wausau District living in Tomahawk, WI. Tom also served as a pilot for many years. Tom and wife of 25 years, Cheryl, still live in Tomahawk. They have two children.

In 2003, Tom received National Police recognition when he was awarded the Medal of Valor at an IACP presentation in Philadelphia. Tom's astute observation of a 3-M reflective license plate led to the apprehension of a fleeing felon wanted for and convicted of murdering his wife.

Aside from serving as a Bishop in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Tom is pursuing a second career in driver education.

Tom and Cheryl live at 1950 Sunset Dr, Tomahawk, WI 54487.



WSP MEMORABILIA

One of the primary objectives of the WSAPP is to preserve the heritage of the State Patrol through the collection and display of historical records, photos, and items of memorabilia. The Academy has been designated as the repository for these items by the Superintendent.

At this time, the Academy is not prepared to collect of massive amounts of these items in addition to the huge amount they already have in storage.

So hang on to these items a little longer and we will let you know when and where to send it.

In the meantime, if it's just “got to go” call Bruce Bishop at 715-453-3683 or email him at: blpabish@yahoo.com . If you are a history buff and want to work on this project, contact Bruce.

Remember, “Everything has a story and everything has a value as we reconstruct our history.”

EVENTS

September 14, 2012 - WSP Alumni Luncheon and 1st Annual Meeting of the WSPAA, 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 (tprt@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.

WSPAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

Current DSP Assignment: _____ Retired/Separated: _____

Highest 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

Visit our website: www.wspalumni.org