



WSPAA QUARTERLY

Volume 14
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE **BY: Tim Heffernan, WSPAA President**

Now is the time for our organization to make great strides. We should be passing from the new kid on the block stage to become a well-organized and viable organization. Yes, we suffered some growing pains and we have overcome most of those. Our leadership was strong and well intentioned. We must give thanks to our founders for making it happen. We are now all brothers and sisters in blue moving forward together.

We have a couple of minor problems to work out and I hope we can get those dealt with within 6 months. We all can gain from being members of the WSPAA. I have known many of you for years and to others I am an unknown. I have lead major organizations before serving 6 years as a Director with the WLEOA and 4 as President. I also served 2 years on the International Association of Fairs and Expositions board representing North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Western Ontario. I am hoping those experiences will help me in my current position.

I am sure that all of you know former State Patrol personnel that are not members and I am asking you to seek them out and get their membership. If you do not wish to ask, contact Mary Albeydyl with their information and she will make the contact. Remember if you don't ask the answer is always no. It is time to grow, and even if you left the Patrol for other positions you are still eligible to join and I hope you have some fond memories of your days in blue.

The board will meet quarterly and you may attend any meeting you wish. If you have a point you feel we need to address contact me and we will get it on the agenda. Our November meeting was at the Academy, then in mid-winter either Madison, (D 1) or Wausau (D 4). Don't neglect our web site and don't forget to check out our on-line store. Contact me at any time at tprtim@charter.net or 715 419 0630.

Tim



DIGNITARY PROTECTION UNIT (DPU)

BY: Capt. Jason Zeeh

The Dignitary Protection Unit (DPU), like many of the specialized units within the State Patrol, has evolved over the past decades into both an integral part of the Division as well as our state's Executive Branch. From the performance of a basic necessary function to the development of a complex and highly trained, passionate, and meticulous team, the necessity of this evolution was spurred by a multitude of factors and events.

The Wisconsin State Patrol was an obvious choice for this responsibility for many pertinent reasons. Our statewide communications system and statewide jurisdiction allow us to transport the Governor safely and efficiently throughout the state at any given time. Above all, the reputation of the Wisconsin State Patrol is second to none. As technology advanced over time and enabled the state's chief executive to begin to work on mobile devices in transit, the Governor's work opportunities expanded, and so did the role of the DPU. DPU's involvement has progressed over the years to complete immersion in, and development of, a unit that serves the sole purpose of the security and transportation of the Governor, First Family, Lieutenant Governor, and any other dignitaries as directed or assigned. Although the Dignitary Unit has a unique position description, they parallel the overall mission and goals of the Wisconsin State Patrol and are dedicated to the people and state they serve.

The Dignitary Unit is part of the National Governor's Security Association (NGSA). It was created in the interest and protection of the Chief Executives of each state. The membership is restricted to only include law enforcement officers who are specifically assigned to a governor's security team. The creation of the NGSA made it possible to network with other security details throughout the country and reciprocate assistance with visiting dignitaries. Every state and the five territories are members of the NGSA. Captain Zeeh currently serves as a regional vice-president for the NGSA and oversees thirteen states in the Midwest.

Increased violence against public officials as experienced in Tucson, Arizona, mass shootings, Anthrax scares, and numerous other threats have become an ever present and unfortunate reality in our culture. Massive protests at the State Capitol and the Governor's residences due to controversial legislation, coupled with threats to the First Family and Lieutenant Governor, spawned a new approach to how business was conducted in the DPU. The Dignitary Unit increased its size to ten members and revamped protocols and procedures to maintain the safety and security of all the elected officials.



Current DPU members include: Sgt. Mike Galvan, Sgt. Andrew Martin, Capt. Jason Zeeh, Sgt. Luke Kraemer, Sgt. Mark Dolin, Governor Walker, Sgt. Eric Dante, Sgt. Shelly Hutter, Lt. Jack McMahon, Sgt. Rick Fitzgerald. Not pictured: Sgt. Scott Gouin

DPU (Continued)

Currently, the DPU consists of a Captain, a Lieutenant, and eight Sergeants. Primary duties include but are not limited to: safe and secure transportation of the Governor, Lt. Governor, and First Lady, planning of large scale events like the State of the State and Budget Addresses, coordination of events with local and state agencies, conducting threat assessments of persons in close proximity to the Governor, acting as liaisons between the Division and the Administration, assisting in the development of policy and procedure relating to the Governor's security, and coordinating travel and security with NGSAs members outside the state for both our principals and visiting dignitaries.

The DPU has daily contact with many high profile persons and groups such as: the Governor's Cabinet and staff, Legislators, National Guard, local and national media outlets, Transportation and Security Administration, U.S. Secret Service, all levels of law enforcement, and various state and national departments. The DPU has had the distinct honor of coordinating travel and visits within Wisconsin for the President and Vice President, candidates for President, various U.S. Secretaries, various Governors, and the Dalai Lama.

The DPU does not and cannot do this alone. Working closely with Secret Service, the NGSAs, local law enforcement, and especially the State Patrol's Regional Posts, the DPU provides top-notch service and support commensurate with the Wisconsin State Patrol reputation. Increased travel, increased personnel traveling, and the complexity of the movements are evidence of the necessary and continual evolution of the DPU. Their duties have integrated into field operations so much so that certain DPU protocols, procedures, and training currently take place at the State Patrol's annual In-Service. The men and women of the DPU are dedicated to the values, goals, and mission of the State Patrol. They are honored to represent the face of the State Patrol to the Governor, his Cabinet, the Legislature, and those who ultimately make the decisions about our future. They are proud to serve the Administration, the people, and the great State of Wisconsin.

WSPAA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For WSPAA members who have not already renewed your WSPAA membership for 2015, the renewals are being collected. Most of the members who attended the Academy Alumni Day have already renewed for 2015. The membership year runs from January through December AND IS STILL JUST \$15/YEAR. The application form is attached for your convenience. Please remember to let us know of any changes in your address, telephone number, or email address.

If you know of someone interested in joining but you are too shy to offer an application or an encouraging word, drop Mary, Membership Coordinator an email at Mary Albedyll <mgalbedyll@yahoo.com>. She will be sure someone makes contact with the interested person.

Please remember, a person does not need to be "Retired" to be a WSPAA member. The person needs to be a current or past State Patrol employee of any rank or classification who completed their original probation.

WISCONSIN LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL CEREMONY

**MAY 8, 2015 — WI STATE CAPITOL — MEET ON THE CORNER BY THE MEMORIAL
12 NOON FOR THE CEREMONY — ATTENDANCE IS ENCOURAGED,**



GREEN, GOLD AND STATE PATROL BLUE

By David Catalano

HISTORY:

In 1995, Corporate Security Chief Jerry Parins of the Green Bay Packers contacted Lieutenant David Pichette and requested the State Patrol provide security for visiting teams traveling from the airport to their hotel, from the hotel to Lambeau Field on game day and from Lambeau Field back to the airport following the game. Additionally, Mr. Parins offered the Wisconsin State Patrol the opportunity to provide a security presence on the field of Lambeau Field during home games. The local troopers were currently assigned traffic direction assignments before and after each home game and this proposal would enhance their responsibilities. Lieutenant Pichette teamed with Sergeant David Catalano, the area supervisor, to create a viable response to Mr. Parin's proposal.

Beginning with the pre-season games during August, 1995, State Patrol personnel were assigned to provide escort security for all visiting teams playing the Green Bay Packers. Also, State Patrol personnel were assigned to provide game security in the north and south end zones. The escort/security personnel along with associated cruiser mileage costs were reimbursed by the visiting team. The personnel on the field provided the service without accruing overtime.

The State Patrol personnel assigned to the field during the game stood with their back to the game and focus on the crowd looking for those behaving inappropriately. Additionally, they were tasked with preventing fans attending the game from entering the field and preventing signs or objects from being hung on the wall wherever the wall is padded.

In 2001, the visiting team escort and security assignments were transferred to the Brown County Sheriff's Department. However, the State Patrol continued to provide pre and post-game traffic direction services and an on-field presence during the games. The cost for these services were absorbed by the Division of State Patrol and no overtime was expended during these details.

During the playoff's in 2001 thru 2003, the State Patrol provided 2 teams of 3-4 personnel to inspect vehicles entering the parking lot as a result of security concerns generated by the September 11, 2001, attacks.

Sergeant John Jones assumed the planning and operations assignments for the personnel assigned to the Packers games in 2003.

TODAY:

Beginning with the 2013 season, the Green Bay Packers Stadium Board began to reimburse the Division of State Patrol for the personnel's time expended during traffic direction and on-field assignments during all home games. Today, these assignments are offered as an overtime assignment, thus not depleting field resources and the ability of the State Patrol to respond to other situations, such as crash investigation, the detection and apprehension of impaired drivers and other traffic related tasks.

During the game, the State Patrol personnel are dispersed at various locations in each end zone and along both side lines. Not only are the State Patrol personnel looking for disruptive and inappropriate behaviors, but they bond with the fans attending the game enhancing the image of the Wisconsin State Patrol.

The personnel who provide the traffic direction duties before the game are also assigned to field assignments during the game. Just prior to the completion of the game, those with traffic direction assignments, leave the field and report to their assigned intersections.



This partnership has proven to be a positive for the State Patrol, the Packers and the community. Another job, "well done."

Sgt. John Jones posing for photo's with fans (Ok, These fans happen to be my son and daughter...)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

BY Bruce Bishop

AND THEN CAME THE LADIES ...MAKING GOOD EVEN BETTER

It was 1975, the Wisconsin State Patrol had been in existence for 36 years. Except for clerks, typists, specialists and police communications officers it was an all-male force on the road. No women wore the badge or uniform nor did they carry side arms. That is until seven women; Mary Hix, Linda Fillnow, Mary Brockman, Karen Thom, Vickie Main, Wanda Krueger and Marsha Wiley were accepted as members of the 24th Recruit Class and an era of change began.

Marsha Wiley is the only member of that first integrated class whose career we could follow and that we can locate today. She was born in Chippewa Falls, graduated from Chippewa Falls High School and attended Colorado State College. She pursued a career in education as a high school Spanish teacher. But as a granddaughter of U.S. Senator Alexander Wiley, her roots and interests go deep into Wisconsin Government and law enforcement. She has had a remarkable career in the Wisconsin State Patrol, all of which began in 1974. She was hired as a Police Communications Operator at the communication center at the Hills Farms State Transportation Building. A year later she was selected to attend the Academy and so began a new career and a new life as a lady Trooper.

And the Academy began a new adjustment; to provide rules of privacy and decorum in what up till then had been an all-male curriculum and campus. Segregated barracks, shades on windows, refinement of language, modification of uniform clothing items and goodbye to impractical skirts. But there were no changes to physical entry requirements or relief from the strenuous activities required in training.

Today many women have served as Inspectors and/or Troopers. Many were or are married, Karen Thom, one of the first to attend the Academy, took three months leave of her four children to attend.

Marsha's first duties were as a brown uniformed Inspector at the Tomah and Oakdale Scales. A year later she was promoted to Trooper and assigned to Dodge County and so started many firsts. Marsha was the State Patrol's first female Sergeant; the first Wisconsin State Patrol woman to graduate from the Northwest University Traffic Institute long course; the first lady Lieutenant and the first Captain in charge of the Motor Carrier Enforcement Section in State Headquarters. Finishing her career as the Captain in command of the North West Region's - Eau Claire Post, only fifteen miles from the family home in Chippewa Falls. This is where she retired in October of 2003 spending many hours in volunteer work in hospitals and the library.

While Marsha made great strides in breaking the gender barrier in the 70's, she did not retire as the highest ranking woman in State Patrol history. That distinction is held by Sandra Huxtable, 33rd Recruit Class, WSP # 2004 who retired at the rank of Major.

By the time Sandra applied to the Academy, and was accepted, several dozen women had become Troopers or Inspectors. They were no longer looked at with surprise when they stepped from their cruisers to confront a violator or assist a motorist. They were fully assimilated into the ranks of their male workmates.

Sandra was born in Merrill, WI. She grew up on the family farm, graduated from Antigo High School. She then attended UW- Platteville. She applied for work as a Wisconsin State Trooper and was accepted into the 33rd Recruit Class, nine years after the first female hires and their followers paved the way. She moved swiftly through the ranks beginning in Waukesha. In her early days as a Trooper she was selected, twice, to serve as an Assistant Training Officer at the Academy for Recruit Classes 43 and 45. She moved to State Headquarters in the Motor Carrier Enforcement Section with promotion to Sergeant. Then came Lieutenant and on to Captain. As a Major she supervised the Bureau of Field Operations and for a couple years as Director of Training at the Academy. She completed a successful career as the Major - Director of the Bureau of Transportation Safety.

Both Sandra and Marsha played many positions in the ever changing management structure of the Wisconsin State Patrol and as they look back on those early days of working in what had been an all-male profession, they can take pride in having been critical cogs in the process. The percentage of women in the law enforcement ranks continues to grow with pride. The total force in law enforcement share the pride and hazards of the career. A sad and tragic example of those hazards is the 1985 death of Trooper Deborah (Pirnat) McMenamain, 34th Recruit Class, WSP #1591, District 6, who was killed by a passing vehicle while making a traffic stop. It could have been any of us on any given day or night.

Let's be proud and be careful. Thank you ladies!

Marsha is at home at 1630 Eagle St. Chippewa Falls, WI 715 723 4189 - marshawiley@charter.net

Sandra's can be contacted at: 3442 Hwy Q, Dodgeville, WI 608 574 4839 huxtable@mhtc.net

Stay in Touch!



Capt. Wiley receives “Congratulations” upon her retirement from Supt. Collins



Major Sandra Huxtable

ANALYSIS OF WRS

By Dennis Hughes

Recently, a pair of conservative think tanks issued a report on the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS). It was a blend of good news and (potentially) bad news for current or future WRS annuitants.

The good news: The report repeats what others have been saying – that the WRS is an example of sound fiscal management other public employee pension funds in the US should try to emulate. Despite the recent Great Recession, the WRS is nearly fully-funded and is “likely to remain among the best-funded retirement systems” in the country.

Even though the WRS is not broken, the report suggests ways to “fix” it (i.e. reduce employer costs), in terms of both WRS pensions and the State Health Insurance Plan. If implemented, some changes could have negative consequences for active duty WRS-covered public employees and/or current WRS annuitants. Two recommendations are worth noting:

Increase WRS “minimum” and “normal” retirement ages for active employees – The report calls current WRS age standards “obsolete” in light of US trends toward improved health, longevity, and working ability in old age. It points to examples of higher mandatory retirement ages for Federal protective service employees and the phasing-in of higher full retirement ages for Social Security. Increasing minimum and normal WRS ages would allow for lower employer and employee pension contribution rates. Of course, it would also postpone/delay “early retirement” opportunities for active employees.

Increase premiums for post-retirement participants in the State Health Insurance Plan – Currently, retirees pay the same health insurance premium rates as active employees because claims costs are community-rated (blended) across all participants. The report calls this a “subsidy” for retirees since we are not only more likely to utilize health care services than younger active duty employees, but we also generate higher average claims. The report lays out actuarial mumbo jumbo to explain how this is a serious and growing financial burden for public employers. It recommends increasing premiums and/or copays and deductibles for retirees.

The report is technically detailed, but likely to inspire someone during upcoming biennial budget deliberations. It can be found on-line at: <http://www.maciverinstitute.com/research/2014/11/report-pension-reform-momentum-must-extend-to-public-employee-retiree-health-insurance/>

EVENTS

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.

First Thursday of the Month - DOT Retiree Lunch at 11:30 am. Held at Monona Garden Family Restaurant, 6501 Bridge Road, Monona. No reservation needed.

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

Monthly — ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) - contact Dennis Schroeder for date, time, and location. The location varies but is generally in the North Central portion of the state. Everyone welcome. denniss@charter.net

Second Tuesday of each month — Retiree Breakfast at 7:30 am at the Hwy 51 Truck Stop (I-39 & CTH Q) south of Merrill. Contact Bill Harvey at lois3545@aol.com if you are attending.

Every Thursday — Eau Claire Retired Law Enforcement Breakfast Group, at 8:00a.m., any retired law enforcement officer welcomed. Held at VFW Post 305, 1300 Starr Avenue, Eau Claire, WI.

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 bjyoung@charter.net. Send items in as soon as you hear of them. Thank you.

2015 WSPAA OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

____ New member: Please complete the entire form

____ Membership renewal: If there are no changes in your address, telephone or email address - only fill in your name and check this box.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Winter Address (if different than above) _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

Current DSP Assignment: _____ Retired/Separated (Date) _____

Highest Rank or Position: _____ Date Started State Service: _____

May we share this information with other members: Yes ____ No ____

*Dues Paid: _____ Full Member or ____ Associate Member: \$15/year each

*Return to Lyle Bliss, 927 Nantucket Dr., Janesville, WI 53546-1759 *Payable to: WSPAA, Inc.

Membership Contacts: Lyle Bliss, Treasurer, 608-931-4060 or Mary Albedyll, Membership Coordinator, 608-444-4710

Email: WSPAlumni.Inc@gmail.com

Visit our website: www.wspalumni.org