

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER



Robert Young April 12, 1952 – March 24, 2017

A service was held on Friday April 7, 2017 at Cress Funeral Home in Madison, WI, to remember and celebrate the life of Retired Colonel Robert Young. It was well attended by many of Bob's family, coworkers and friends. A moving memorial to Bob was given by Retired Captain Lee McMenam. Many will miss Bob, none more than his wife Julie. Bob's dedication to the Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association was unwavering to the end.

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

Some of Bob Young's career highlights; River Falls ambulance EMT 1978, Ski Patrol Rib Mountain, a Pierce Co. placement out of the WSPA, 1981 FTO for Bill Traynor in Pierce Co., 11-28-82 Sgt. Promotion in District 8 Spooner. Sgt. For Polk, Burnett and Barron Counties. 6-24-84 promoted to LT. in D4, 5-5-91 promoted to Captain at State Headquarters.

WSPAA BOARD MEETING WSP D-1, DEFOREST, WISCONSIN March 23, 2017 – 10:00AM

Those in attendance:

President Scott Lindemann, Vice President Phil Wenzel, Treasurer Linda Woltd, Secretary Gary Brogan Communications Director Kim Hurley, Membership Mary Sander. **Reps** –Mike Jennings, Keith Young, Maynard Stoehr

Before the meeting there were conversations about Bob Young and our organizations history. A lot has to do with everything *that* Bob did and Scott will pass a lot of it along to Kim and we will go from there bringing Kim up to speed on where we are going as an organization. Scott said Bob was the first one to start everything going in this organization since 2011; since shortly after we started he was one of the founding officers.

The meeting was called to order at 9:59 AM by President Lindemann

There were no changes or amendments to the Agenda; motion at approve by Phil Wenzel, seconded by GARY BROGAN, approved.

SECRETARY REPORT –

Gary gave a short report that Kim Rantanen-Day contacted us recently including photographs of her Dad, Harold M. Rantanen, WSP #258 who passed away in 1984. In her email she said that although no information has been released yet, the Everest Metro Detective tragically killed in a domestic situation in the village of Weston WI was her husband's nephew, Jason Weiland. Jason was 40 years old, married and father of two daughters, ages 12 and 13; his brother Brent Weiland is a PCO for WSP D-4 Wausau. The photograph email and information will be forwarded to Dave Harvey at Hill Farms.

Keith Young said if we ever need any information on any former employee get in touch with Dave Harvey as he has a data base and all he has to do is type in a name and if there is any information on *that* employee, *the* information will be there. The comment was also made that the Academy took pictures of all the officers for their ID cards and other information plus each class had their own yearbook.

Gary also asked for advice on how often and what should we include in our USPS mailings to those members without email. We have always sent the quarterly reports and other information on our annual meeting, etc. The discussion indicated we should continue to do so, not including any weekly reports as

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

the number of those and the cost of mailing would easily exceed the \$15.00 dues we pay. We will try to keep an updated list of obituaries which will be included with the quarterly newsletter mailings.

Alice Lincoln, the daughter of Trooper Gil Lincoln has been in touch with us looking for a picture of her Dad in uniform. There was nothing in our recent 75th Anniversary book but found a picture of Gil in our 50th Anniversary book and Gary sent her a scan of that page.

Gary has all of Lyle Bliss' files in safe keeping for whenever we make a decision on organizing our history committee and where it will be located.

FINANCIAL REPORT -

Treasurer Linda Woldt said the checkbook balance is \$14,801.87. Mary Sander & Linda work closely together and keep all of us updated on dues/membership information. Linda said we did receive a \$72.00 deposit in February from Queensboro Apparel.

COMMITTEE REPORTS -

Membership Mary Sander gave us all three membership lists which are current as of March 28, 2017. There was a lengthy discussion on delinquent members, how long we keep them on our emailing information lists, how many times we should keep asking them/reminding them of their unpaid dues and **how many times we have already sent them a postcard on their expired status**. The status and qualifications of any Honorary Members **was also discussed**.

One individual past due renewal notice will be sent by email and/or USPS. If you are unsure of your membership status, contact Treasurer Linda Woldt.

Mary asked what should she do with those on the list that haven't paid for two years since 2015 and have been sent reminders by mail/ the consensus was yes, remove them from the Google DaneNet mailing lists. Mary said it will put us under 300 members, Mike said their membership cards show their status period, expiration, etc.

REGIONAL REPS -

Keith said it has been pretty quiet up by us this winter, last Thursday was the nicest day of all but only eight showed up; they get together once a week so it doesn't get written up all the time.

Mike said we had at least 19 show up at the Green Lantern for breakfast our last get together the first Thursday of the month.

Keith suggested it would be a good idea to write up an actual job description for our Regional Reps, what are the actual duties as some may think it is a lot harder than it really is. All you have to do is be the eyes and ears of your area and write it up to Scott. Let him know if there is someone in need, promotions, obituaries, it is not that difficult. Keith will write it up and get it to Scott. Mary said we are short 4 Reps.

NEW BUSINESS:

WSP and WSPAA history committee – Dave Harvey sent out 83 Vietnam era demonstration photos for identification, most of them were on UW Bascom Hill. Phil and Mike have been working on them, some with a magnifying glass to try and ID name badges and tags on license plates. Mary Albedyll brought up a good suggestion to expand the picture and see who is standing next to each other and their name badges. Phil said this was during either 1970 or 1971, the first year all they gave us were sticks. The second year they gave us helmets which you had to wear all the time, even in your squad. You could take it off if the temperature was over 90 degrees, but the weather was always over 90 plus you wore them with long sleeve shirts! There was further discussion on the different situations, equipment or lack thereof, working with different Sheriff Departments, etc.

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

Scott said if anyone is out talking with anyone and they say they are interested in our history get that info to Scott as we want to get two history committees together.

SCOTT SAID MIKE IS IN CHARGE OF THE HISTORY COMMITTEE !!!????

Keith said I think we should start a little earlier in the year and have members contact other members to get them to come to the annual meeting at the academy.

Mike said the first graduating class will have a 65th anniversary in 2020 but we don't know if anyone will live beyond that; we think 60 and 65 will probably be the last anniversary years we celebrate / acknowledge. Mary said right now we celebrate the 50th and 60th anniversaries which Mike made up recognition badges and pictures. Mr. Bishop is not here but he wanted all the classes recognized. Keith acknowledged that we don't think we have to go overboard recognizing all the command staff as there were a lot of Troopers and Inspectors upset about taking the time for all that. It is one thing to recognize the anniversary classes, the longest living survivor or whatever class is there, but no need to acknowledge everyone who is in attendance. They had done a recognition by hand raising, but one person at the meeting said we didn't have time for all this and was bringing it up again so it doesn't happen again.

The question came up should we buy lunch for those in the class we are celebrating. The majority said yes to buying lunch for the 50th and 60th anniversary classes.

Gary asked if we should also invite those family members that have been in contact with us looking for information on their relative that worked for the WSP, such as recent contact from Kim Rantanen-Day and her Dad, Harold M. Rantanen; everyone agreed yes and be sure and let them know they are welcome to come to our annual meeting.

Gary said Bob Young always took the pictures at the annual meetings, we will need a replacement now. Keith said he has a camera and Scott said you are our new photographer.

Mike said this is the anniversary for both the 5th and 6th graduating classes of 1957 as they ran them together! Mike read off the list of officer's names to see if anyone knew if they were alive or passed away.

Scott introduced Kim Hurley who is taking over for Bob Young, there was a huge thank you from everyone and we can't tell you how much we appreciate having you being on board!!

Scott commented that there is still some criminal element in Florida who continues to try and get money out of us but Treasurer Linda has kept on top of it and able to block it and will continue to monitor it.

Linda brought up the subject of our donation to deceased employees. Not sure of what to do. We did write a check to Lyle Bliss' family in the amount of \$25.00 for their designated fund.

After discussion Keith made a motion, "Upon death of an association member, at the discretion of the Board we will donate \$100.00 to their designated fund; if none, we will send the donation to the deceased family." Second by Gary Brogan, approved.

Linda has received a government file from Lyle Bliss wife that needs to be completed and filed. We think it is the form 990 for non-profit organization which is \$15.00 a year. Lyle had mentioned something about a form, but said we had three years before it would be due. The mail is still going to Lyle's address; his

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

wife then forwards it to Linda. Keith looked it over and said we have until April 12th to file it. Keith and Mike thought we can file it on line. Linda also said she has filed the state form but not the federal form as yet.

Scott asked for an adjournment – Keith Mike and Mary had additional –

Keith said it would be a good idea if each of us took a moment to write up a paragraph or so about how we became involved with the WSPAA – please do so and send to Gary before our next meeting.

Mike asked who sent out the notice for our annual meeting, us or the WSP Academy? We have the list involved and it is huge, however they may not all be Alumni members. Scott said we only have to be concerned about our Alumni members, if the Academy wants to send the notice to everyone on their list it is up to them. Keith thinks last year the Academy said they would no longer **be doing the** mailing and it is up to us now. Gary said he recalls Bob Young saying that last year and that we have to do the mailing from now on.

Mary asked does this cover everyone that ever graduated or worked for the WSP, we include them in the mailing – yes.

PHIL SAID IT IS NOT ON US TO NOTIFY ANYONE UNLESS THEY ARE AN ACTIVE MEMBER, MIKE SAID THE ORIGINAL INTENT WAS FOR ALL ORIGINAL MEMBERS TO BE INVITED WHETHER THEY WERE RETIRED OR NOT.

In the past the subject came up do we pay for the attendees lunch at the annual meeting to which we have always said no, the amount of dues we pay would be almost equivalent to a free lunch. Scott said we will not be paying for lunch and he will visit with the Lieutenant at the Academy and get things taken care of.

After a discussion of where to hold our next meeting in June the subject of mileage reimbursement for the board members came up. Depending on where the meeting is, some members must travel between five to six hours round trip. Some personally have no problem with the amount of reimbursement as it could be based on any government mileage rate, state, federal or as an example the Troopers Association. It would be up to the individual member on whether they want to submit the information for reimbursement. If we approved mileage expense that may be an incentive for potential reps to sign up.

Phil suggested we table it until our next meeting to which Scott agreed and will put it on the next board meeting agenda; if we decide to approve it we can always do back pay.

Maynard said put it on the agenda as “Board of Directors Expense” instead of a mileage discussion.

Phil asked if there is a prominent officer of another community that passed away do we include that in our weekly report? Keith said we done that in the past with the information being sent to Bob for the reports and/or newsletters, we always relied on his discretion which worked well in the past. If there is any question about including it or not send the info to both Scott and Kim for their decision.

Kim showed us the Special Olympics T-shirts which she now has in stock, just contact her for one.

Next board meeting will be at District 4, Wausau at 10:00 AM on Thursday, June 22nd, 2017.

Motion by Keith Young to adjourn at 12:25 PM, second by Maynard Stoehr.
President Scott Lindemann declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Gary Brogan - Secretary

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

UPDATE ON ETF MOVE TO SELF-INSURANCE:

On February 8th, the Group Insurance Board (GIB) adopted a self-insurance model to finance the ETF's \$1 billion annual State Group Health Insurance Plan starting in 2018. The GHIP covers about 236,000 State and local employees, retirees and their dependents.

Previous WSPAA newsletters tracked the process GIB used to study the pros and cons of self-insurance. After two expensive and contradictory consultant studies, the GIB decided the time was right to make the move.

In his State of the State address in mid-January, Governor Walker pledged to commit all savings from moving the GHIP to a self-insurance model to increasing State aids for public education.

On February 8th, the Governor introduced his 2017-19 biennial budget. He anticipated GIB's approval of a self-insurance model, so his budget assumes a cost savings to the State (as an employer) of \$60 million over the coming biennium.

Moving to self-insurance should not change State health plan benefit coverages. And, GIB believes covered employees, retirees and their families will still have access to 98 percent of health care providers currently available thru the GHIP.

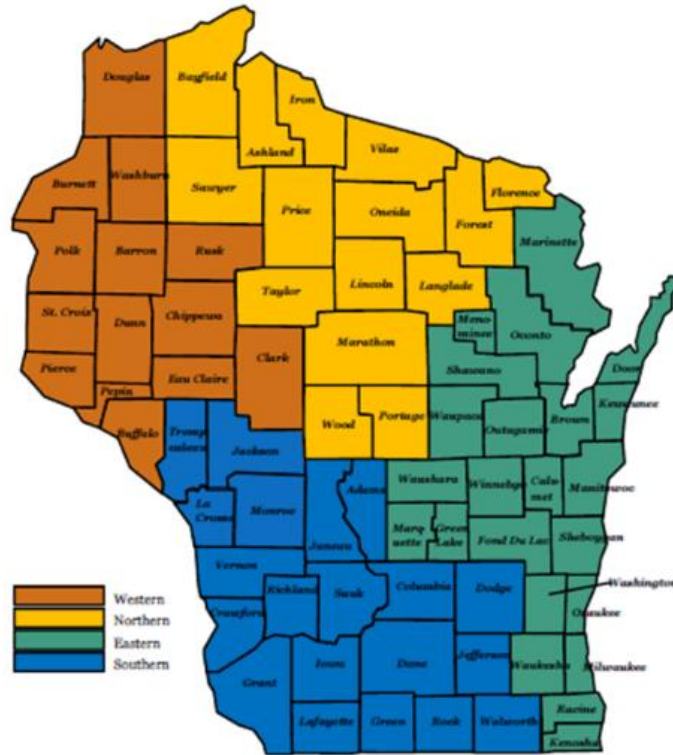
ETF staff will make separate recommendations for supplemental coverage of retirees on Medicare under the self-insurance model.

The self-insurance model will split Wisconsin into four regions, with six different third-party administration (TPA) vendors brought on board to handle claims processing and provider payments for services received by members covered in the GHIP.

The TPA for statewide and nationwide operations will be CompCare Health Services (a subsidiary of Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield). In southern Wisconsin, the regional TPA vendors will be Dean Health Plan (an affiliate of SSM Health Care) and Quartz (affiliated with Unity Health Plan and Gundersen Health Plan).

In the east region, Network Health Administrative Services (owned by Network Health Plan) and Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be the TPA vendors. Security Administrative Services (owned by Security Health Plan) will be the vendor for northern Wisconsin, and HealthPartners Administrators (based in Bloomington, MN) will handle the west region.

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER



Region	North	East	South	West
Statewide Vendor	Anthem	Anthem	Anthem	Anthem
Regional Vendor(s)	Security	Anthem Network	Dean Quartz	HealthPartners

The ETF’s two consultant studies said self-insurance might cost the State as much as \$100 million more per year than the current GHIP model OR it could generate up to \$42 million in annual savings.

The savings, if any, would come from lower administrative costs, eliminating health insurance company profits, and avoiding the “Cadillac Tax” provision of the Affordable Care Act (a.k.a. Obamacare).

Governor Walker’s budget proposal assumes the maximum cost savings estimate (\$42M per year times 1.5 years of the 2017-19 biennium equals roughly \$60M).

Critics of ETF’s move to self-insurance point to great uncertainty in the national health care picture – for example, the President and congressional leadership are determined to “repeal and replace” Obamacare as fast as possible.

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

Some fear the move will disrupt Wisconsin's existing competitive insurance market, costing jobs at some of the HMO's, and will restrict consumer choice of health plans and providers.

The GHIP makes up 10-15 percent of the Wisconsin's fully-insured health insurance market. Some argue the move to self-insurance will force insurance companies to shift all of their financial risk to the commercial market, meaning higher premiums for the 85-90 percent of their customers outside the GHIP.

Recent changes in State law anticipated the outcome of GIB's self-insurance deliberations, so the decision is now subject to review by the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee (JFC).

ETF will negotiate 3-year contracts with each of the third-party vendors by early April. JFC will then have a 21-day passive review period.

This means JFC will have until late April or early May to either reject the TPA contracts or take no action – and no action by JFC would allow the self-insurance change to take effect beginning January 2018.

If JFC rejects the vendor contracts – and so far, some JFC members have expressed serious doubts about the change – the GIB believes ETF has other options to generate cost savings within the current competitive-bid model. These options include requiring 3-year insurance contracts (instead of annual) and imposing higher quality/value/customer service performance and medical management standards on participating insurers.

Stay tuned for more details. It is too early to panic over whether your current health care provider will still be available to you when 2018 rolls around.

Wisconsin State Patrol Air Support Unit

The Wisconsin State Patrol Air Support Unit provides the necessary emergency aviation services to all Wisconsin public safety providers while enhancing traffic highway safety and homeland security for the citizens and visitors of this state.



WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

Unit Functions:

- Provide air support for patrol operations (i.e. Traffic enforcement details)
- Provide photography services for scene reconstruction investigations such as traffic crashes and other significant crime scenes (i.e. fatal shootings)
- Provide photography of infrastructure damage during natural or manmade disasters. (i.e. flooding damage)
- Provide surveillance and photography for investigative units. (i.e. surveillance and photography above counter drug operations etc.)
- Provide general photographic services for evidence gathering, planning, critiquing, and surveying
- Provide aerial security for VIP and foreign dignitaries
- Search for lost or stranded persons, suspects and fugitives
- Provided support to other missions as deemed necessary

Currently, all of the above services are conducted utilizing one of our three assigned Cessna 172 fixed wing airplanes. Traffic patrol and enforcement flights being our primary mission for which the Cessna fixed wing has proven invaluable.

Benefits of State Patrol Air Support

The Wisconsin State Patrol Air Support Unit (ASU) has a long and safe history. The State Patrol first took to the air in 1959 and air support has been an integral part of our traffic enforcement efforts since that time.

Aircraft provide tremendous opportunities for law enforcement operations. From the air one pilot can see miles of highway. From this vantage point a State Patrol pilot can quickly and easily identify vehicles that are operating in a very dangerous manner. Using aircraft to quickly identify the most dangerous drivers allows ground troops the ability to stop those vehicles and take the necessary enforcement action thereby preventing serious injury and fatality accidents.

Benefits/Advantages of Airborne Traffic Enforcement Activities:

- Pilots are able to identify violations involving operations that occur over an extended distance
 - Following too close

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

- Reckless/Aggressive driving
- Excessive speed
- Unsafe lane changes etc.
- Pilots can detect violations in areas that do not lend themselves well to routine means of enforcement
 - Construction zones
 - No passing zones
 - Roadways section without crossovers, shoulders or available safe areas for parked cruisers

The Wisconsin State Patrol Air Support Unit is often requested to support public safety missions including but not limited to –

- Search and Locate Flights
- Emergency Transportation Operations Flights
- Disaster Management Response (Flooding) →
- Marijuana Eradication Flights
- Criminal Surveillance (Following drug traffickers)
- Crime Scene Photography

-2016 Flood Photo-

Taken from State Patrol Air Support Mission



WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

EVENTS—Regularly Scheduled Gatherings:

- 1). 2nd Monday of the Month— Aurora Hospital Cafeteria, 2845 Greenbrier Rd., Green Bay, WI 9:00 am— Join us for coffee. All are welcome.
- 2). First Thursday of the Month - No reservations needed, just show up at 9:00 am at the Green Lantern, McFarland, WI.
- 3). 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.
- 4). Last Thursday of Even Numbered Months - WISDOT/DNR Retiree Breakfast at 9:30 am at "The Prime" in Trego, WI. Contact Connie Salquist (ConnieSalquist@yahoo.com).
- 5). 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
- 6)). 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.
- 7). 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 kimwspaa@tds.net. Thank you.

President: Scott Lindemann sgklindemann@charter.net *Vice-President:* Phil Wenzel philw@chulavistaresort.com *Secretary:* Gary Brogan Caboosedad@charter.net *Treasurer:* Linda Woldt vdbriese@frontier.com (NW) Regional Reps: Keith Young: keithyoung625@gmail.com Bob Follis bcfollis@charter.net Northcentral (NC) Regional Rep: Bruce Bishop: blpabish@yahoo.com VACANT: VACANT Southwest (SW) Regional Reps: Mike Jennings: mikeandjudy@mhtc.net Frank Hefti the.heftis@gmail.com Steve Williams: srwilliams5555@gmail.com Southeast (SE) Regional Rep: John Mundy: 489@wi.rr.com VACANT *Membership Coordinator:* Mary Sander: mamabear6615@gmail.com By-Laws Chair Maynard Stoehr: mistoehr@charter.net Webmaster: Diane King: dianeking@charter.net Communications Director: Kim Hurley kimwspaa@tds.net Proof-reading: Janet Sabatke and Frieda Haesler WSPAA OFFICERS & CONTACTS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

WSPAA QUARTELY NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

_____ **New member, please complete the entire form**

_____ Membership Renewal:

please enter the year(s) you are renewing for in
box and fill in your name below.

Membership year runs from January 1, through December 31.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

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

Highest Rank or Position: _____

_____ Full Member: \$15.00/year or _____ Associate Member: \$15.00/year

Amount Paid: _____ Renewal Year(s): _____

**Make your check payable to: WSPAA, Inc. and return this form along with your check to: Linda Woldt,
3120 Breeze Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590.**