



The Chain Gang

By Terry Stewart, Supervisor of Automotive Services

In the fifties and sixties the State Patrol had 250 sworn officers as well as 250 patrol cars. Half (125) of the fleet were traded for new vehicles each year using a sealed bid process. In 1959 and again in 1960 the Patrol got a high number of American Motors Ambassador sedans.

After they had been in service for some time a few of the 1960 Ambassadors developed a problem where at highway speed the hood would come unlatched and fly up striking the windshield and blocking the driver's view. In some cases involving higher speed they even went over the top and hit the red light on the roof causing it to cave in. Obviously this was very unsafe. Fortunately, and through great effort by our officers, no further accidents occurred, such as driving off the road or striking an object. As a stop gap measure we purchased some heavy duty chain, eye bolts, snaps etc. and made what might be referred to as safety chains. All 1960 Ambassadors were then equipped with these chains. The device was such that one would open the hood latch, pull the hood up a few inches and then reach in and unhook the chain before opening the hood all the way.

In those days we purchased most of our gasoline at Clark Oil Company stations as well as a few other vendors. At that time all these service stations were what we now call full service stations where the attendant would routinely check the oil etc. under the hood. It was a terrible surprise to an attendant to unlatch and sharply pull up on the hood only to have it go a few inches and abruptly stop, often pulling the hood right out of their hands. It didn't take long for word to get around about these hood latches. American Motors demanded that we remove the chains. In respect for the safety of our officers we refused.

We filed claims with AMC for reimbursement of the repair costs for each of these occurrences but were turned down. This went on for some time until the annual *State Automobile Bid Specification* meeting. At this meeting Mr. Bill Rank, Chief of Purchases & Services announced that until such time as the Motor Vehicle Department was reimbursed for these losses the American Motors dealers would not be allowed to bid. We soon received payment in full. In the

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years 1961 through 1966 we did not purchase any American Motors patrol cars, but it was not because of this issue.

Above is an article written by one of our member, our thanks to Terry.

EVENTS—Regularly Scheduled Gatherings;

1). **2nd Monday of the Month**— Aurora Hospital Cafeteria, 2845 Greenbrier Rd., Green Bay **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. Everyone is welcome. dennis@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 that we can post it for all to see or attend. Send these items to kimwspaa@tds.net. Thank you.



A February breakfast gathering photo.

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WSPAA BOARD MEMBERS

President: Scott Lindemann - sgklindemann@charter.net

Vice-President: Phil Wenzel philw423@gmail.com

Secretary: Gary Brogan – gabrogan13@gmail.com

Treasurer: Linda Woldt wspaa2011@gmail.com

(NW) Regional Reps: Keith Young: keithyoung625@gmail.com Bob Follis bcfollis@charter.net
Northcentral (NC) Regional Rep: Ray Sondelski sondel@mtc.net Bruce Bishop: blpabish@yahoo.com
Southwest (SW) Regional Reps: Mike Jennings: car13@mhtc.net Ruth Tiry rdl8486@hotmail.com
Southeast (SE) Regional Rep: John Mundy: 489@wi.rr.com Orv Froh orvfroh@gmail.com

Northeast (NE) Regional Rep: Lyle Sconzert aviator1955@new.rr.com

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



Your new NC and SW regional representatives (Ray & Ruth).

Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association Board Meeting

Directors Board Room
Chula Vista Resort
March 22, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Lindemann at 10:00 AM followed by our Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone introduced themselves –

Those in Attendance –

President Scott Lindemann
Vice President Phil Wenzel
Communications Director Kim Hurley
Treasurer Linda Woldt
Membership Mary Sander
Secretary Gary Brogan

Regional Reps –

Mike Jennings – SW
Keith Young – NW
Ruth Tiry - SW – approved and accepted today!
Ray Sondelski – NC – approved and accepted today!

Guests -

Jim Camacho –
Ruth Tiry -
Ray Sondelski -
Maynard Stoehr –

AGENDA -

Motion by Mary Sander to approve the Agenda, second by Kim, approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT –

Gary distributed the minutes for the November 2017 board meeting for review. No changes or corrections, motion by Mike Jennings to approve, second by Linda Woldt, approved.

An example of the last mailing to our 19 members who do not have email was also distributed; these mailings usually consist of 15-20 pages double sided. He asked if anyone had any suggestions on how we might improve these mailings, there were no suggestions. As we have discussed in the past the cost of these mailings easily exceeds those members' \$15.00 yearly dues.

FINANCIAL REPORT –

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Treasurer Linda Woldt reported that there is \$14,785.95. Mary asked if we are staying about the same in our treasury, Keith said last year we had \$14,065.18 so we are staying about the same. Motion to approve by Gary Brogan, second by Phil Wenzel, approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Membership -

Mary Sander said in January we had 6 members that do not have email and have not paid their dues so she sent them a letter. In response 4 of them have paid their dues and we were advised that one person, William Rochelle from Thiensville passed away August 6th, 2017 but we don't recall seeing an obituary. Additionally we haven't heard from Roger Eggen, he was trooper in the 16th class.

On the member master list that Mary distributed, those in red are those that haven't paid their 2018 dues. The additional separate blue sheet contains the list of 33 members who haven't paid their dues. Mary will forward the list to Kim Hurley so she can include it in the next mass mailing.

Linda said we should mention to them that members who are in good standing and attend the annual meeting will have their meal paid for and will get a new WSPAA window decal.

Lifetime Membership Discussion

There was a lengthy discussion again on the pros and cons of trying to determine a period of time that would be involved and what the fee would be. Linda said she was chair of that committee, some members of the committee checked with other states for what they were doing. We wrote up a proposal and nothing happened. We found our biggest problem is that many of our members are already in the '70s or older plus we are a small organization of less than 300 members. We have previously discussed this on at least 2 other occasions and were unable to reach a conclusion and it is just not feasible on what figures would work or apply to us. To explain again there is nothing to prevent a member from paying forward their dues – as an example pay 5 years forward and send in a check for \$75.00 and you won't have to be concerned about renewing your dues for 5 years. You don't have to use the 5 year period, you can use any length of time you wish.

Mary suggested we can add a line to the dues renewal form with that suggestion to pay ahead 5 years for \$75.00 and/or leave blank spaces for those amounts and they can fill in the amounts they wish and send in the appropriate payment. It was also agreed that we do not do refunds for dues. On occasion we do receive donations over and above a member's dues and those amounts are placed in the treasury and used to support the WSP K-9 units. As previously agreed, the board determines on a case by case basis that in the event of a member's death, the Association makes a minimum donation in the amount of \$100.00.

Gary asked if we should give them a free year, pay for 5 and get 6 years. The majority said no that we are paying for their meal at the annual meeting and all they have to do is show up plus they get a free WSPAA window decal for which we normally charge \$5.00.

Communications -

Kim said there were a few members who were having email problems but we have told them how to correct the situation over and over again and in most cases the problem is solved. Phil said it could be something as simple as a period in the address or an error in capital letters vs lower case.

Kim said she had an email from Captain Fish reference the shadow boxes that are given to the family at a funeral. Would the WSPAA be interested in assisting with the out of state funerals which we are now attending? There was a discussion on the subject. Are these flag shadow boxes including the flag, are they presented to the family of fallen officers both in Wisconsin and when we attend out of state funerals, what do they look like and the cost? Phil said let's see the shadow box and what we're talking about; Scott said take it a little further and ask them to give us a presentation of what they're talking about, what it includes, what do they want from us? Ray made a motion to that effect to bring in a representative to our next board meeting and determine what is involved,

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second by Kim, passed. Scott asked Kim if she would email Captain Fish rather than have Gary write a letter to him. Kim will do so and copy in the board members and area representatives.

Kim asked if we wanted to put an article in the next issue of the Troopers Association magazine to target those subscribers. This last issue of the WTA magazine was a thick one with a ton of ads. Keith said it wouldn't hurt as we got involved with their calendar last year. Kim said she thinks we can put in an article at no charge. Scott asked Kim if she would do that for us and she said sure unless Keith wants to do it. Scott said Kim has been doing an absolutely great job since she has taken over, the weekly info that comes out and he hasn't heard any criticism; Keith seconded that especially about the WSPAA decals which she was able to have designed, printed and available in time for our last annual conference and on very short notice too.

Keith mentioned that if you go to our website there is a list of every recruit class member, if you take the trooper or inspectors name and type it into Google it will automatically give a link to the page that their name is on.

REGIONAL REPS -

Ray Sondelski was asked if he would be our NC Rep and Mary said Ruth Tiry is going to take the SW Rep and they were both accepted and approved!

(This has been a long time coming and we can't thank you both enough!! gb)

Kim is going to contact Cris Lewis, Mark Lewis wife, to consider being our NE Rep. We just made her an honorary member, Mark helped out at all the retiree days and was looking forward to joining us upon his retirement, and he was also really involved in the Troopers Association. Phil said let's invite her to our meetings.

There is also a vacancy in the NE, the NC is now filled by Ray, Keith is our NW Rep and Bob Follis was involved but we don't know his status and haven't heard from him.

For SE Rep we have Orv Froh but we never see him but he said he was very honored to be asked but it was a matter of transportation and we all know how old he is; he is at every one of their coffee get together and sets them up, Orv is a promoter!

The subject of our name tags on lanyards that Bob Young had made for us was brought up and how often we use them and we think they are worthwhile for everyone so we will have them made up for Ruth and Ray also.

Mike said the closer we get to Academy time he will get the membership list of who is attending from Linda and he will fill out the class info to recognize whoever is involved in the anniversary years. We have a 70 year class anniversary coming up with Bruce Bishop, the only living member.

MEMORIAL UPDATE - Phil said on the subject of the WSP memorial for all our fallen troopers and inspectors, he had a phone conversation over the memorial with those officials involved and the specs are absolutely awesome. One had an eternal flame built into it, some of them ran into the \$40,000.00 figures for granite and marble. The issue is, and he is not in favor of it whatsoever and looking for input, the active personnel want it placed at the Academy. Mike said we thought that the new Hill Farms Office Building would be the place for it. We had a lengthy discussion on the subject with the thought that if it were at the Academy that is on a gated US Army facility with limited access and the public could not access it; the Academy already has plaques and features dedicated to our fallen troopers plus the Troopers Association has publicized the information. It was felt that the Capitol grounds in downtown Madison was a consideration but it already has a fallen officer's monument on our corner of the grounds. Mary asked if it was for all fallen law enforcement and Phil said no, it is strictly for the WSP. He also said the kink in the ringer is that the WSP has zero funds to proceed with this memorial and it will have to totally be a fund raiser headed up by the Troopers Association. It will become a state wide program to raise the \$35-40,000.00 for the original plan. There are three different plans for this memorial, not one of them has been approved. This is in the very very infant stages and it is years down the road, it means a lot more meetings.

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Phil asked if he has our support at the next meeting he will voice that we are NOT in favor of it being at the Academy.

ROUNDTABLE - Keith brought up if there was any movement to honor all fallen law enforcement officers from all departments with their names on stretches of highways or bridges. It has been a good idea but how to move forward with it. Do we have to go to assemblymen or legislators in the different areas or how to go about it? Mike asked what about the highway workers, firemen, EMS and other associations and departments and we could use the word "Hero's". We had a lengthy discussion on the various possibilities, names, areas, highways and bridges that could be covered. If anyone has traveled south there are many bridges and stretches of highways named for various personnel and/or their departments, law enforcement, firefighters and the military with something as simple as highway signs with those acknowledgements.

Kim said she has contact with a lobbyist. Phil asked if she would contact her and see what she thinks or any suggestions on how to make it happen or she may know someone with an open ear.

Two signs on a bridge would not be that expensive and we probably wouldn't have a problem funding that.

Maynard said contacting whoever is in charge of signing the Rustic Road designations may be a good place to start.

Scott said it probably has to be a legislative act, let's keep working on it and not forget about it.

Kim said she is looking for articles for the next newsletters, photos, etc. Phil said he has one and will give to Kim on those old Burma Shave signs that used to be posted along our highways.

Gary mentioned he would like to see us have another association get together as we had in some past years. Mary said we usually went in September and there wasn't a huge turnout, but it was great!! She described some of the trips such as visiting Split Rock Lighthouse in Minnesota, stopping for pie at Betty's Pie, Bong Air Force Museum in Superior, visiting the whaleback ore boat near Barker's Marina nearby; the trip to Green Bay, the Spooner train trip (which has improved and expanded). Lucy Harvey was a great one for putting one together and what's needed is for someone to run with it. The only one we had difficulty with was getting the golf outing off the ground.

Phil asked for suggestions on our next boarding meeting, when and where – we concluded it would be at: District 4 in Wausau at 10:00 AM on Thursday morning June 14th; Scott will double check with D4 to see if the conference room is available and we can take it from there.

At 1:06 PM, Scott asked for a motion to adjourn, Gary said so moved, second by Kim, approved.

OBITUARIES –

Henry C. Fiege, age 85, of Menomonie, WI died Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2018 at home with hospice. He was born March 27, 1932 in Bayfield, WI to Douglas and Dorothy (Manard) Fiege. He grew up and attended schools in various areas of the state. After graduating from Viroqua High School in 1950 Henry joined the U.S. Navy and served for four years. He was a flight crew member with Patrol Squadron 57 during the Korean War and served in that area. Henry married Neva J. Schroeder on Dec. 26, 1955 at St. Mathews Lutheran Church in Stoddard, WI. He was an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Menomonie and served on a number of church boards. In 1956 Henry graduated from the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy. After three years as a trooper he left to work as an investigator with the State Beverage and Cigarette Tax Division for 11 years. He then was assigned to the Wisconsin Department of Justice as a Special Agent with the DCI Arson Bureau until his retirement in 1987. Henry also served on the Menomonie City Council for six years, was President of the Police and Fire Commission for twelve years and a member of the Menomonie VFW Post 1039. Henry was a sports fan and enjoyed the Green Bay Packers. He made many fishing and hunting trips with his sons and friends to Canada, the Dakotas as well as the Wisconsin area. He was a loving husband and a devoted father and grandfather. We will miss him, but we are happy that he is at rest with his Lord. Henry is survived by his wife Neva Fiege; three sons, William (Billie Jo), Michael (Julie), Patrick (Julie) all of Menomonie; seven grandchildren, Seth, Trevor, Jenna, Joshua, Jackie

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and Nathaniel Fiege and Jacob Wolbert; six great-grandchildren, Zoey, Emmett, Lynley, Carter, Case and Cambreigh; sisters, Mary Jane of FL, Dorothy Ann of MI, Virginia (Ginger) of IL and Christine of Cornucopia, WI; as well as many nieces, nephews, in-laws and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; his step-mother Signe Fiege; and a sister Patricia Helsing. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018 at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Menomonie, with Pastor Aaron Schulz officiating. There will be visitation at the church one hour prior to the service on Sunday. Burial will be in St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery at a later date.

Paul R. Smith, 53, of Iron River, died Tuesday, January 2, 2018 in Iron River.

Paul was born in Duluth, MN on January 25, 1964 the son of Wayne and Betty Smith.

He graduated from Northwestern High School with the class of 1982. He worked at the Iron River Building and Home Center with his dad. He moved to Trempealeau, WI and then went on to technical college to pursue a career in law enforcement. Paul was accepted and completed the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy. He was a State Patrol officer for Central and Northern Wisconsin for many years. He retired in 2013.

Paul enjoyed restoring and building Gold Wing Motorcycles and boats. He loved riding motorcycles and boating on Lake Superior. He liked to go hunting, fishing, and camping. Some of his favorite times were spent with his Team "S" buddies. Paul also enjoyed photography, reading and writing.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Betty Smith in 1994 and an infant brother, Tommy.

He is survived by his father, Wayne (Lynette) Smith of Iron River; sister, Linda Smith of Cloquet; brother, Craig (Cindy) Smith of Muskego, WI; nephews, Logan and Nate; special friend, Laura Thomas; and many extended family and friends.

A celebration of Paul's life will be held on Saturday, May 26, 2018 at the Iron River VFW, 8265 US Highway 2, Iron River, WI 54847.

Edward F. Taylor, 85 of Cottage Grove WI, formerly of Pardeeville WI passed away on March 8, 2018. He was born a fool on April 1, 1932 in Milwaukee WI to parents Walter and Edna (Pender) Taylor. On August 6, 1955 he married Janet Petri. Janet passed away on February 22, 1998. He Married Karen Ball on May 11, 2002.

Edward graduated from Bayview High School Milwaukee, WI in 1950. He enlisted in the US Navy in 1951 and served until 1955. He served as a Sargent in the Wisconsin State Patrol, Owned and operated "The Mug" drive in restaurant in Pardeeville, drove for Greyhound Lines, Klemm Transportation, and Veterans transportation. He was an instructor at MATC for the Public Safety Department, served on the Pardeeville School Board, served on the Branch and Pardeeville Fire Departments, member of the Yellow Thunder Officiating Organization, member of the American Legion Post #215 Pardeeville WI. He enjoyed traveling, hunting, fishing, and camping. He was very fond and proud of his family.

He is survived by his wife Karen, sons, Paul (Diane) Taylor, Dennis (friend Janet Dean), Jim (Patty) Taylor, Dan (Dynaë) Taylor, Paul (Chris) Corcoran. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Justin Taylor (friend Christina), Joshua Taylor, Quintin Taylor, Walter and Andrew Taylor, Finn Taylor, Kelley (friend Alex) Corcoran, Kasey (Jason) Gerner. One Great Grandchild, Payton Gerner. He is survived by sisters, Inez Nelson, Suzanne Taylor, brother Jeffrey Taylor, Sisters-in-law, Paula Kurtzweil, Shirley Petri, Brothers-in-law Peter Webster, David (Carole) Webster, and many cherished nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Janet Taylor (nee Petri), infant grandson, Dennis C. Taylor, Parents, Walter and Edna Taylor, Brother -in-law Tom Petri, and Sister-in-law Sharon Webster.

Visitation is March 17, 2018 from 9:00a.m. to 11:00a.m. at Grasse Funeral Home in Pardeeville, WI. A celebration of Ed's life will begin at 11:00 a.m. which will be led by Paul Taylor. Burial of the ashes will be in the afternoon at Pardeeville Cemetery. Ed's request is to have donations made to Madison PBS in lieu of flowers.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

_____ *New member, please complete the entire form*

_____ Membership Renewal:

If there is no change in your address,

telephone or email, please enter the year(s) you are renewing for in this 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/Position: _____ Recruit Class # _____ Badge# _____

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

****If you wish to pay multiple years, you may do so by multiplying the number of years by \$15.00.****

Amount Paid: _____

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.

For Inquiries on your Membership, please contact: Membership Coordinator: Mary Heffernan – Sander (mamabear6615@gmail.com) 715-222-3524 Or Treasurer: Linda Woldt (wspaa2011@gmail.com) 608-279-0661

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ONLINE VIDEO –

If you are interested in seeing a video of the old office space in room 551 at Hillfarms got to - youtu.be/IVVi9NYKYuE.

WSPAA DECALS-



The WSPAA has its' very own window decal. If you wish to get one, they are only \$5.00 each. Please contact Mary Sander at mamabear6615@gmail.com.

Burma Shaves – courtesy of Phil Wenzel.

The one who drives when he's been drinking depends on you to do his thinking.

A guy who drives a car wide open is not thinkin' he's just hoping.

Passing school zones take it slow let our little shavers grow.

Car in ditch driver in tree the moon was full and so was he.

At intersections look each way a harp sounds nice but it's hard to play.

Both hands on the wheel, eyes on the road, that's the skillful driver's code.

No matter the price no matter how new the best safety device in the car is you.

Around the curve lickety split beautiful car wasn't it?

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