Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association Spring Newsletter 2023



President's thoughts -

The WSPAA board met on May 23, 2023. A discussion was had on the continuing rise in our expenses. The Board unanimously voted to increase the dues to \$20 effective January 1^{st} , 2024. We have been fortunate that our membership dues have remained \$15 since the association was formed, but the price of doing business has risen. Postage and office supplies have gone up and we want to continue to mail information to those that do not have email and mail your membership cards to you. Our treasurer, Linda Woldt, was using a computer that was at least 10 years old or older, so for her to record and take care of our funds, a new computer was bought. The Academy has increased the price of meals and we want to continue paying for your meals at the alumni luncheon. The last two years we have purchased wreaths for our eight fallen troopers and displayed them near their names on the Memorial wall during police week in Washington D.C. I am proud that the wreaths say, "From the Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association" and would like to continue this tradition to honor their ultimate sacrifice. Sadly Wisconsin has had 4 officers killed in the line of duty this year. The Board approved sending \$100 to the memorial fund for each of these officers, and to continue making contributions for all future Wisconsin law enforcement agencies line of duty death. We have also shown our support for the WSP honor guard by donating monies to them.

I want to thank all of you for being members of the alumni association. It was not an easy decision to raise the membership fee, but a necessity. The membership fee will increase to \$20 on January 1^{st} , 2024. Anyone wishing to avoid the increase in the dues, can send in their renewals now or before January 1.

The Alumni day/luncheon is September 8th, 2023. The RSVP's need to be in to Linda by August 11th, 2023. The Association will be paying for each member's meal, if you want to bring a plus one the meal will be \$11 for them. If you want to renew your membership at the same time, please send separate checks. The forms should be attached in this newsletter. *Many*

Memorial fund contributions - WSPAA Line of Duty Death Memorial Fund Contributions The WSPAA By-Laws has a list of "Our Core Values". Two of those are: *Promote collegiality, fraternity, and fellowship *Honor professional public service The WSPAA has in the past contributed to Memorial Funds for Wisconsin State Patrol line of duty deaths. With the three recent law enforcement line of duty deaths in NW Wisconsin our Board of Directors approved sending Memorial Fund Contributions of \$100 each to funds for Chetek PD Officer Emily Breidenbach, Cameron PD Officer Hunter Scheel and St. Croix County Deputy Kaitie Leising. As part of our May 23rd WSPAA Board of Directors Meeting we discussed the importance for all law enforcement agencies and associations to support one another with the tragic hardships felt by the family and friends of officers lost in the line of duty. Our Board of Directors voted to make \$100 Memorial Fund Contributions for all future Wisconsin law enforcement agencies' line of duty deaths. Partnerships with our federal, state and local agencies have always been part of the foundation of the Wisconsin State Patrol. Supporting those partnerships through Memorial Fund Contributions by the WSPAA will help families and agencies with their loss as well as reflect positively on WSPAA and our members.

2023 Deaths

- 1. Steve Brulport, age 69 died on 1-15-23. Steve was a member of the 35th recruit class, badge #1598. He is survived by his wife-Barbara and daughters Celena & Crystal.
- 2. Ken "Gatten" L'Esperance, former PCO. Survived by his wife Renee, children: Jess Kahl & Patrick, stepdaughters Kali & Bria.
- 3. Warren Holsbo, age 81, died on 1-18-23. Warren was a member of the 15th recruit class, badge #479. Warren is survived by his fiancé Rose and his sons Mark & Al.
- 4. Suzann Muchinski, age 87 died on 3-5-23. Susie was the wife of Sgt. Bernie Muchinski. Bernie was a member of the 10th recruit class.
- 5. Dennis Schroeder age 86, died on 5-1-23. Dennis was a member of the 11th recruit class, badge #374. Dennis is survived by his wife Mary and sons Kurt & Erik.
- 6. Gerald Bell, age 82, died on 5-21-23. Gerald was a member of the 17th recruit class, badge #529. Gerald is survived by daughters Tammi & Tracey.
- 7. James Koontz, age 91 died on 5-27-23. James was a member of the 6th recruit class, badge #288. James is survived by his children; Dennis, David & Julie.



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NUMBER



Each of us has the on-going opportunity to equal or excel anything others have done for our Fleet Safety Program. The challenge is there. Can you meet it? These award winners are meeting it:

16 yr. - Sgt. Lloyd Lind Tpr. Warren E. Holden Insp. Leon W. Luick

15 yr. - Sgt. John M. Bartol 14 yr. - Lt. Jerome J. Blied

12 yr. - Sgt. Thomas M. Price

Sgt. George P. Wenzel Insp. John M. Andersen Insp. Charles E. Chapman

8 yr. - Tpr. Louis D. Black Tpr. Harry A. Blair Tpr. Gerald L. Decker

8 yr. - Tpr. Eugene M. Fitzgerald

Tpr. Thomas M. Patrie

Tpr. Roger A. Steiner Tpr. William R. Werbeckes

Tpr. Robert J. Zach

7 yr. - Tpr. Phillip B. Overgard 4 yr. - Tpr. Richard R. Kort Insp. David M. Pfeuffer 3 yr. - Tpr. Lawrence B. Junion Jr. 2 yr. - Tpr. Jeffrey J. Jansen 1 yr. - Tpr. James K. Steppke

Tpr. Kersten P. Rocksvold

Tpr. Douglas L. Van Buren

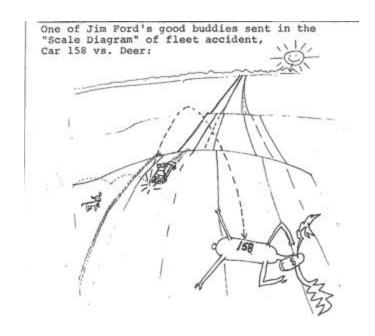


Above is a picture of the fire suppression tool current State Patrol officers will be receiving courtesy of the Freemasons. All the officer does is pull the pin, throw and go.

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Regular Events

- Northwest Region Every Thursday starting at 7:00 AM at VFW Post 7232 2900 W Folsom St, Eau Claire, WI 54703 Until sometime in August when the remodeling is completed at VFW Post 305, then we will return to Post 305 at 1300 Starr Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703 on Thursdays at 7:00 AM.
- Northeast Region First Sunday 10 AM at the Rolling Meadows Restaurant, 947
 Rolling Meadows Dr., Fond du Lac.
- 3. <u>Southwest Region</u> First Thursday of every month 9 AM at the Green Lantern in McFarland.
- 4. <u>Northwest Region</u> Last Thursday of Even Numbered Months WISDOT/DNR Retiree Breakfast at 9:30am at "The Prime" in Trego, WI. Contact Connie Salquist, <u>ConnieSalquist@yahoo.com</u>.
- 5. <u>Northcentral Region</u> 2nd Tuesday every month at the Friendship House, intersection of Highway 51 and CTH Q south of Merrill at 7:30 AM.



2nd quarter scholarship donations: The family of Dennis Schroeder made a donation in his memory. Thank you for your generosity.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2023 WSPAA ELECTIONS

It is time again to consider serving your fellow members in the Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association. The following positions are up for election at the annual meeting on September 8th at the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy: Vice President

Treasurer

Southeast Regional Representatives-Two positions
Northeast Regional Representatives-Two positions
Northcenteral Regional Representatives-Two positions

If you are interested or know someone who is interested in serving the WSPAA submit your nomination by August 31st, 2023 to:

Keith Young

By phone at 715-879-4140 (leave a message) or

By email at keithyoung625@gmail.com

5-23-23 WSPAA Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Mary Sander, Kim Hurley, Ruth Tiry, Linda Woldt, Ray Sondelski, Paul Matl, Dave Collins, Phil Wenzel, Keith Young and guest – Lucy Harvey. Excused – Joseph Jakubicz.

Meeting started at 10:08 AM. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all attendees.

Motion to accept the agenda was made by Kim, 2nd by Keith, agenda was accepted.

Lucy had a few things to share with the board. Lucy started by speaking about Dennis Schroeder, that he had passed away from cancer, she attended his memorial gathering in Wausau and said it was very nice. Also, Lucy said if we were to have a social event again she suggests Titletown in Green Bay. Lucy made a suggestion on a new web master. Kim will follow up on this. Lucy mentioned that search engines that students are familiar with list scholarships available. We could post our scholarships on these search engines next year Lucy suggested.

Mary stated that she has spoken with Sgt. Platt at the Academy back a few months ago on who takes care of the roadside memorials for our fallen officers. The reason Mary was asking was because an alumni association member had asked her if the WSPAA could take care of the memorials. There was discussion on this and the consensus was that it is too dangerous for us as civilians and older folks at that to be on the side of the highways tending to the memorials. The board thinks the WSP should be taking care of the memorials. Sgt. Platt was given locations of the memorials and he will try to get out to them and check on them.

<u>Financial Report</u> — Current balance in the checking account is \$8,342.97, scholarship account balance is \$7,009.13. There is a CD coming due in June. It was decided that we will turn over the CD for another period of time. Our 24 month CD comes due in December. Mary asked should we buy more CD's. Mary made a motion that we purchase another CD at the new or current CD rate. Keith seconded the motion. Motion passes. Motion to accept the financial report was made by Ruth and second by Phil. Motion passes.

<u>Secretary's Report</u> — We are down to 8 snail mail members. Kim sends them the quarterly newsletter and a few of the weekly memos & reviews during the course of the year. Mary had approved Kim purchasing a postal scale for these mailings. It paid off right away as a mailing was about to go out was iffy on what postage would be required. Kim advised the board that her TDS internet account will be closed in the coming weeks as TDS will no longer be providing internet to Kim's neck of the woods. Motion to accept the secretary's report was made by Ray and second by Paul.

<u>Scholarship Report</u> — The application period just closed on May 21st. We have several application packets that will now be going out to our judges for evaluation. Keith suggested that the pictures we take of the winners go to the media outlets in the area winners are from. Board discussion this would be a good thing. This helps promote the scholarships and the Patrol. Kim asked if maybe we could get some dummy checks to use for these photos. It was agreed we should get some dummy checks and Mary will ask the company that made the scholarship posters about doing the checks.

<u>Merchandise Report</u> – Ruth asked if we should stay with Queensboro or switch to MN City Custom. So far this year the association got \$154.58 from Queensboro. It would take a lot to set up a store with MN City Custom. After discussion the board decided to stay with Queensboro. Ruth will ask them to delete the 75th anniversary logo and ask them to add Inspector since there is already a Trooper. Discussion on should we open up the Queensboro store to the cadets and current WSP personnel. Decision was yes we should open it up to anybody. Kim will notify the Superintendent that the Queensboro website/articles are open to all WSP employees.

<u>History Committee Report</u> – Dave explained what we have been up to so far. Going through lots of stuff such as pictures, awards, and law books, finding some duplicates of things. We are disposing of the extras. We still have more to go through for our first round. Then we can start to sort and organize items. We have spoken with the Academy and in the future we will do the display cases.

Mary asked if board members should be reimbursed mileage for being on committees and the overall response is yes they should be reimbursed.

<u>Membership Report</u> — Mary passed around a list of people she had removed from the membership list as they had not paid their dues to renew. Those on this list were contacted multiple times by Mary, Linda and Kim. Mary proposed raising dues. Discussion on the topic followed. Ray made the motion to raise our dues to \$20, second by Phil. Motion carried.

Discussion on continuing to do the wreaths during Police Week at the Law Enforcement Memorial in DC. Motion to continue by Kim, 2nd by Linda. Motion carried.

Keith brought up line of duty deaths in the future and not needing to go through a board vote to make a donation. Keith suggested we defer the decision to Mary. Mary wants it to be consistent. Ray said we should not put it on Mary and just make it automatic.

Regional Reports -

<u>SWR – Dave</u> spoke about the Law Enforcement Memorial ceremony on the Capitol grounds and how nicely done it was. Paul had nothing to report.

NCR – Ray reported the same group is meeting in Merrill on a regular basis. See regular scheduled events for the information.

SER – No report due to having no regional reps.

NWR – Ruth spoke about an unofficial group out of Tomah Post that gets together. This Tomah Post group rotates where they meet. Meetings are on Wednesday's.

Keith mentioned a meeting every Thursday starting at 7:00 AM at VFW Post 7232. See regular scheduled events information.

<u>Retiree Day – Meal prices</u> at the Academy have gone up. Linda will have to make changes to the signup sheet. Kim mentioned getting some items from the Law Enforcement Memorial in DC to use as raffle items. Lots of discussion on this and other possibilities. Mary made a motion to get two Thin Blue line flags through Amazon to give away. Kim suggested that merchandise sales be moved to a better area. The old library was suggested as a new location. Ruth will look into getting some baseball caps for retiree day.

Next meeting August 15th 10 AM at Wausau Post.

Mary read a note from Sgt. Platt about open dates in 2024 for retiree day. Consensus was Sept. 6th, 2024.

Motion to adjourn by Linda and second by Phil. Meeting adjourned at 2:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Hurley



Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association

Retiree Luncheon & Annual Meeting

WI State Patrol Academy, Fort McCoy, WI

September 8, 2023

<u>CHECK IN: 9:30 – 11:30 A.M.</u>

*****Lunch for all active members will be covered by the WSPAA.****

The fee for lunch for non-members/guests is \$11.00.

Checks should be made payable to WSPAA. If you are bringing a guest and want to pay for your 2024+ years membership at the same time you are making your reservation, PLEASE DO NOT combine the two amounts on a single check. Please send separate checks as it is easier for accounting purposes.

Number of people attending	
Name(s) (PLEASE PRINT)	
Rank at Retirement	Recruit Class #
Classification	Date Hired

RSVP by AUGUST 11, 2023 to: Linda Woldt, 3120 Breeze Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 Phone: (608) 279-0661 or email to: WSPAA2011@gmail.com