

WPSAA Quarterly Newsletter

2024 1st quarter



President's Message – It is a new year and I hope you all are well. I thought I'd give you a little news of what your alumni association board has been up to.

I formed a history committee about 2 years ago which consisted of Co-chairmen David Collins and Joseph Jakubicz, Kim Hurley, David Harvey, and me. Gary Bauer joined the committee after the September 8th, 2023, alumni day. I asked Academy Sgt. Platt if they would be open to the Alumni Association taking over the display cases. We had a vision of displaying items, photos, documents, etc., and changing them out every now and then. The Academy was happy to hear we wanted to take over the display cases. We discussed perhaps getting a mannequin or two to display our uniforms. We knew this would be a huge task, but we were determined to help preserve the State Patrol's history.

Fast forward, to Alumni day, September 8th, 2023. Academy Captain Frank Hefti approached David Collins and asked if we were interested in utilizing the lobby/TV area for the display cases. The answer was a resounding yes. Captain Hefti had the four cases moved from the hallway and all the class guidons are now hanging in that lobby area. At our January committee meeting we learned that everything in the attic was going to be thrown out and that many items had already been thrown out. Captain Hefti let us know that the entire attic area was going to be emptied out and the items destroyed as the attic was part of the HVAC system and not meant to be a storage area. I had heard stories that there were numerous items of interest up there, so rather than letting them get thrown out, the committee asked to go through them.

I don't think any of us imagined the amount of "stuff" that had been stored in the attic. We initially went through to determine the items we wanted; our next step is to organize what we saved. This is where David Harvey comes in. He is our liaison to the WSP. He had already done a lot of research and categorizing while getting ready for the 75th anniversary of the Patrol. We wanted to use the same method and labeling he did to log what we have. It is

overwhelming the number of photos, slides, newspaper clippings, and reports we must still go through.

We have partnered with the Wisconsin Troopers Association/Benevolent Fund to assist in paying for two more display cases and cabinets to store our items in. Timothy White is our liaison to the WTA/WTBF and he has also accepted an appointment to the WSPAA history committee.

All of this is a work in progress. I get a little overwhelmed when I think about everything we still need to do, but short of moving in to the Academy (that is never going to happen); we will carry on, slowly but surely.

If you or anyone you know has items to donate to our project, we would gladly look at what you have. One item we are looking for is the green inspector uniform. If you do have something you think we could use, please notify or send it to Kim.

Mary –WSPAA President

History Committee Minutes – At our January meeting we went through several boxes and bins sorting many items into categories. The afternoon was spent in the attic saving items we thought were of value. We also pulled together several items to put in the empty display cases as we heard that the new recruit class was starting the following week.

At our March meeting we went through droves of photographs sorting them by categories. We also had a Teams meeting with David Harvey listening to his expertise on collecting and saving things for WSP history. Joseph explained the different mannequins we have an option to purchase. We decided that Joseph should look into one male and one female mannequin that we can display uniforms on in the main lobby in addition to the display cases. We also discussed types of cabinets and display cases we might get in conjunction with the Trooper's Association. Kim



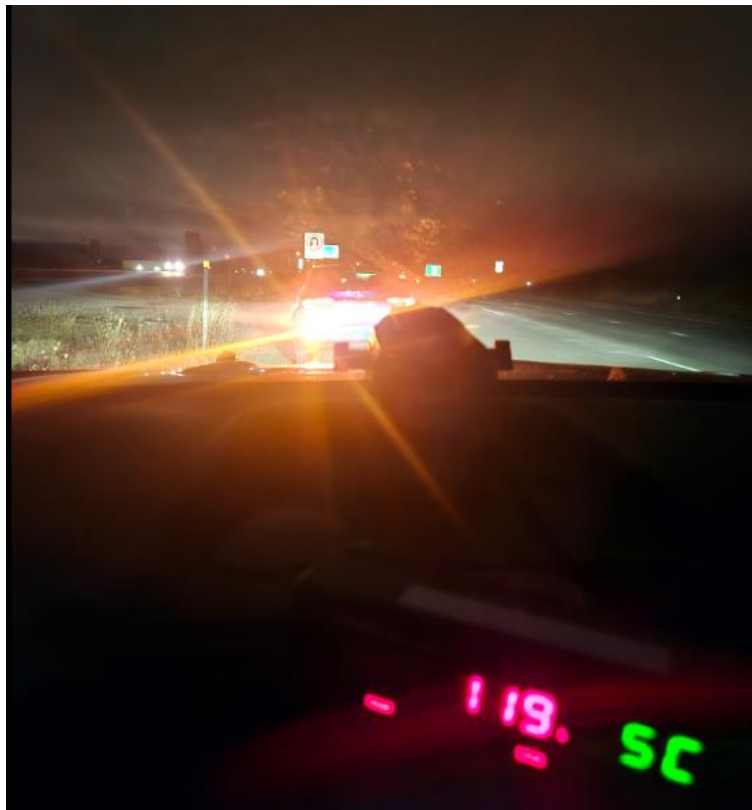
The above display case was put together by the history committee in time for the start of the new recruit class.



Most of us have been here a number of times during our careers.



What's wrong with this picture? I can see just fine Officer.



That's not too fast is it?

No board meetings were held Dec.-Feb., so no minutes to share with you.

Next WSPAA board meeting is on April 23, 2024 10am at Wausau Post

Scholarship Information – use the following link to access information on our Bruce Bishop – William Harvey scholarships.

<http://wspalumni.org/scholarship.htm>

PLEASE, PLEASE help spread the word about our scholarships. Help us to have many good applicants.



2023 NLEOM statistics - 136 officers died in 2023. That is down from 2022.

Of the 136 deaths 47 were firearms related, 37 traffic related and 52 other causes. 22 of the 136 deaths were officers from State Police/Patrol departments.

Let's keep our brothers & sisters in blue in our thoughts on a daily basis.

Summer Social –

Lucy Harvey & Ron John Wolfe are hard at work putting together a summer social for the Wisconsin State Patrol alumni association. They are making plans for a road trip to Lambeau Field in June for fun, food and visiting. More details to come in the near future.

2024 Deaths

1. Phillip M McCoy, age 70 died on February 13th. He is survived by his wife Susan and stepdaughter Richelle. Phillip was a member of the 32 recruit class, badge numbers 986 & 1551.

Recruit class anniversaries

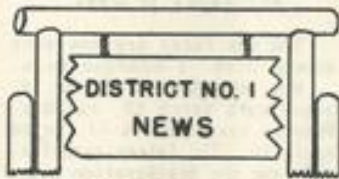
Individuals from the 13th class are celebrating their 60th anniversary. We only have one member –Harry Blair – from that class.

33rd recruit class individuals are celebrating their 40th anniversary. Our members in that class are Mel Yasick, Gary Bauer, and Mike Klingenberg.

Congratulations to all of you and happy anniversary.

Regularly Scheduled Gatherings :

- First thursday of the Month – Anyone retired from the State Patrol is invited to join this informal gathering. No reservations are needed, just show up at 9 am to the Green Lantern in McFarland, WI.
- Last Thursday of Even Numbered Months – WISDOT/DNR retiree breakfast at 9:30 am at “The Prime” restaurant in Trego, WI. Contact Connie Salquist, ConnieSalquist@yahoo.com



WATCHDOGS OF DIST. 1

The sharp-eyed officers of Dist. 1 apprehended two car thieves within two months, and one of the thieves was such only because he couldn't find an airplane to lift.

On Jan. 31, Officer Louis Beyer spotted a stolen car headed east on Highway 30, less than an hour after an item went out on it over the Baraboo desk. As the suspect was considered possibly dangerous, Beyer followed the car for a ways before Jefferson and Dane County help arrived. He then stopped the 14-year-old driver (who was concealing a hunting knife) and turned him over to Madison P.D. The youth told him he had planned to steal an airplane, but settled for a car when he couldn't find a plane. (He couldn't fly).

Officer Philip Anderson spotted a "hot" car in Sauk City March 31. He had to travel the length of the Wisconsin River bridge before he could turn around and take pursuit. But after chasing the car around three city clocks he curbed it and brought the driver to justice.

A GOOD NUMBER OVERALL

The MVD receives many requests for special license numbers. Some of the requests are for numbers that are easy to remember, a phone or address number. This wasn't the case with a Walworth County farmer.

After he received his routinely assigned farm plates, he told Officer Ralph A. Moehrke that he'll remember the number because it is the same as his work overalls - 38-30! (Hope that the size doesn't change before the end of the year!)

GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

Officer Ralph Moehrke concludes that a man is judged by the company he keeps, and even acknowledging the wrong person in the company of the wrong crowd can get a person into trouble.

He reports: "While patrolling in Walworth County I came up on three young boys walking along the shoulder of the highway. One was a bit bigger than the other two. He was nearer to the pavement.

"As I normally do, I waved to them. Only the smallest boy waved back. When I had passed them, I looked in my mirror and much to my surprise the larger boys had shoved this little fellow sprawling into the snow bank. The penalty for being friendly!

"NOT LOSING A SERGEANT..."

"Don't think of it as losing a good sergeant, think of it as gaining a good Inspector II."

Thus Lt. Draeger consoled Capt. Wolff when the latter mourned the reclassification of Sgt. Allen Fenske to Inspector II, replacing Ted Karow, who resigned to take a job as investigator with the state Dept. of Taxation. The reclassification came at Sgt. Fenske's request.

Officer Bill Wescott also resigned to take a similar position with the tax people.

OH HI, COLONEL!

Inspector Ed Moehrke strolled into the BADGE-R newsroom one afternoon recently to relate how he had forced Colonel Beier to take evasive action on Highway 51 north of Madison.

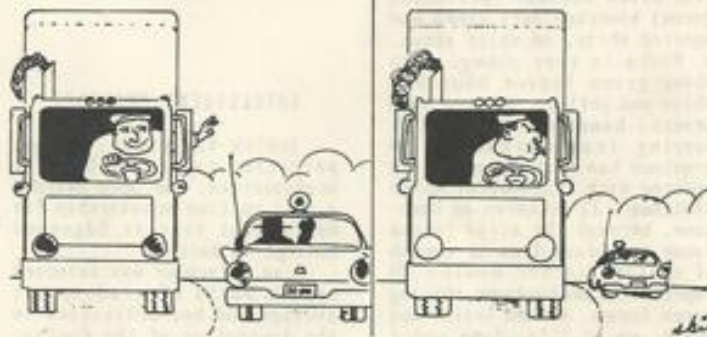
The inspector was entering 51 from DeForest and saw a black car approaching. Thinking he had plenty of time, Moehrke pulled out onto the highway. The black car didn't have to come to a screeching halt, but had to slow down perceptibly.

"I know how irritated I get when someone pulls that on me, and I felt pretty sheepish about forcing him to slow down," he told a BADGE-R reporter. "But when I looked in the mirror and saw who it was I felt even worse--it was Colonel Beier."

The two pulled to the side of the road for a short chat and parted quite amicably, according to Moehrke. The colonel was not the least bit perturbed by the incident, he said.

CONGRATULATIONS

Officer and Mrs. Donald Jackson have another deduction, making two boys and one girl. Kurt Douglas Jackson was born March 25, weighing 7 pounds, six ounces and standing 20 inches tall. He has a very good voice and looks like a duck hunter, Jackson reports.



Indiana State Police Newsletter

Know that some of you remember the above article

Senate Bill 2023 SB 273 and AB 278

2023 SENATE BILL 273 May 8, 2023 - Introduced by Senators JACQUE, BRADLEY, WANGGAARD, CABRAL-GUEVARA, BALLWEG and TOMCZYK, cosponsored by Representatives WICHGERS, BRANDTJEN, O'CONNOR, SAPIK, BEHNKE, C. ANDERSON and RETTINGER. Referred to Committee on Labor, Regulatory Reform, Veterans and Military Affairs. AN ACT to amend 40.22 (1), 40.22 (2m) (intro.), 40.22 (2r) (intro.) and 40.22 (3) (intro.); and to create 40.26 (7) of the statutes; relating to: law enforcement and fire fighter annuitants in the Wisconsin Retirement System who are rehired by a participating employer. Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau Under current law, certain persons who receive a retirement or disability annuity from the Wisconsin Retirement System and who are hired by an employer that participates in the WRS must suspend that annuity and may not receive a WRS annuity payment until the employee is no longer in a WRS-covered position. This suspension applies to a person who 1) has reached his or her normal retirement date; 2) is appointed to a position with a WRS-participating employer, or provides employee services to a WRS-participating employer; and 3) is expected to work at least two-thirds of what is considered full-time employment by the Department of Employee Trust Funds. This bill creates an exception to this suspension for an annuitant who retired from employment with a participating employer and who is subsequently rehired or provides employee services after retirement, if 1) the annuitant is a retired law enforcement officer or fire fighter; 2) at the time the annuitant initially retires from covered employment with a participating employer, the annuitant does not have an agreement with any participating employer to return to employment; and 3) the annuitant elects to not become a participating employee at the time the annuitant is rehired or enters into a contract after retirement. In other words, the bill allows 1 2 3 4 2023 - 2024 Legislature - 2 - LRB-2966/1 MIM:skw SENATE BILL 273 an annuitant who was a law enforcement officer or fire fighter to return to work with an employer who participates in the WRS and elect to not become a participating employee for purposes of the WRS, and instead continue to receive his or her annuity. For further information see the local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill. The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows: SECTION 1. 40.22 (1) of the statutes is amended to read: 40.22 (1) Except as otherwise provided in sub. (2) and s. 40.26 (6) and (7), each employee currently in the service of, and receiving earnings from, a state agency or other participating employer shall be included within the provisions of the Wisconsin retirement system as a participating employee of that state agency or participating employer. SECTION 2. 40.22 (2m) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read: 40.22 (2m) (intro.) Except as otherwise provided in s. 40.26 (6) and (7), an employee who was a participating employee before July 1, 2011, who is not expected to work at least one-third of what is considered full-time employment by the department, as determined by rule, and who is not otherwise excluded under sub. (2) from becoming a participating employee shall become a participating employee if he or she is subsequently

employed by the state agency or other participating employer for either of the following periods: SECTION 3. 40.22 (2r) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read: 40.22 (2r) (intro.) Except as otherwise provided in s. 40.26 (6) and (7), an employee who was not a participating employee before July 1, 2011, who is not expected to work at least two-thirds of what is considered full-time employment by the department, as determined by rule, and who is not otherwise excluded under sub. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 2023 - 2024 Legislature - 3 - LRB-2966/1 MIM:skw SECTION 3 SENATE BILL 273 (2) from becoming a participating employee shall become a participating employee if he or she is subsequently employed by the state agency or other participating employer for either of the following periods: SECTION 4. 40.22 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read: 40.22 (3) (intro.) Except as otherwise provided in s. 40.26 (6) and (7), a person who qualifies as a participating employee shall be included within, and shall be subject to, the Wisconsin retirement system effective on one of the following dates: SECTION 5. 40.26 (7) of the statutes is created to read: 40.26 (7) (a) Under this subsection, "law enforcement officer" has the meaning given in s. 165.85 (2) (c). (b) Subsections (1) to (5) do not apply to a participant who applies for an annuity or lump sum payment during the period in which at least 75 days have elapsed between the participant's termination of employment and becoming an employee or contractor providing employee services with a participating employer if all of the following conditions are met: 1. The participant is a retired law enforcement officer or fire fighter. 2. At the time the participant terminates his or her employment with a participating employer, the participant does not have an agreement with any participating employer to return to employment or enter into a contract to provide employee services for the employer. 3. The participant elects on a form provided by the department to not become a participating employee. SECTION 6. Initial applicability. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 2023 - 2024 Legislature - 4 - LRB-2966/1 MIM:skw SENATE BILL 273 SECTION 6 (1) This act first applies to a participant under the Wisconsin Retirement System who terminates employment on the effective date of this subsection. (END).

Until the next newsletter, be well. Kim