District 7 Unveils Memorial for Trooper Sean M. O’Connell, Jr.

Trooper Sean M. O’Connell, Jr. was remembered on May 30, 2014, by family, friends, and colleagues at a memorial ceremony dedicating a monument in his name, one year after he was killed on duty while working a traffic detour around the Skagit River Bridge collapse.

The monument is located in front of the District 7 Headquarters in Marysville; it features a colored photo of O’Connell set against dark marble. An inscription reads: “A man of honor, a man of integrity, the epitome of all we should strive to be ...”

“When we say we shall never forget, this monument is a reflection of the fact that we mean we shall never forget,” said Chief John R. Batiste.

He said the new monument to O’Connell will stand as a testament to the trooper, husband, father, and friend he was.

see Memorial on page 4

Alissa O’Connell, standing next to WSP Chief John R. Batiste and Sergeant Graeme Kennedy, helps unveil the memorial of Trooper Sean M. O’Connell Jr.

District 4 Trooper Receives the 2013 Chief Will Bachofner Award

Trooper Tyler L. Fryberger, District 4 Spokane, received the 2013 Chief Will Bachofner Award. This award is given to the trooper who scores the highest in the following nine categories: seniority, complaint history, appearance, driving history, citizenship, additional job responsibilities, awards and commendations, support of department programs, and law enforcement activities. Fryberger competed against the other seven 2013 Detachment Troopers of the Year for the award.

The award was originally called the Washington State Patrol Trooper of the Year Award; in 2006, the award was renamed after Retired Chief Will Bachofner in honor and recognition of his distinguished career and contributions to the Washington State Patrol.

Trooper Tyler L. Fryberger
Inside Out Goes Online, Real-Time

The times they are a’changin, and Inside Out is changing with them.

Effective immediately, every Inside Out article will be available online as soon as it’s written. No longer will you have to wait for the bi-monthly version to come out as a PDF. The link to the Inside Out blog is http://wspinsideout.blogspot.com.

“In this era of instant information, something that happened two or three weeks ago is old news,” said Captain Rob Huss, commander of the Office of Government and Media Relations (OGMR). “Our hope is to publish items as soon as the information is verified and the article properly edited.”

For those who prefer printed copies, individual articles can be printed and provided to those without computer access as has been done with the previous PDF version.

“We know that many of our employees and retirees prefer a hard copy, and this format will still accommodate that,” Huss said.

The new Inside Out is also formatted for easy reading on many brands of smart phones.

Along with this change, readers can choose to be notified of newly published articles via e-mail. For those familiar with RSS (“Really Simple Syndication”), the function integrates nicely with Microsoft Outlook.

Instructions for subscribing to the Inside Out RSS feed through Microsoft Outlook (or, if you are using another e-mail service, follow their specific instructions for RSS feeds):

- Within Outlook, Click on File.
- Click Account Settings.
- Click on the Account Settings box that comes up.
- Click on the RSS Feeds tab.
- Click on the “New” Box.
- Paste or type in the following link: http://wspinsideout.blogspot.com/feeds/posts/default
- Click Add.

To then direct RSS feed notifications to your Inbox:

- Select/Highlight the WSP Inside/Out RSS feed.
- Click the Change Folder box.
- Select the folder you wish notifications to appear in, usually your Inbox.
- Click OK and then Close.

Questions may be directed to Robert Calkins at (360) 596-4013.
Governor Inslee Honors Crime Lab Manager for Outstanding Performance

On June 3, 2014, Gene Lawrence, Marysville Crime Laboratory Manager, received a 2014 Governor’s Award for Leadership Management at a luncheon with Governor Jay Inslee at the Executive Residence.

Lawrence was one of 20 state agency managers honored at the day’s event.

This year’s honorees were recognized for a wide range of accomplishments, including work to streamline public services, boost government transparency, and save millions of taxpayer dollars.

Lawrence received his award for his work providing leadership to the staff of the Marysville and Spokane Crime laboratories so high-quality service to law enforcement and prosecuting attorney agencies in Eastern Washington could continue without interruption.

“These managers have set priorities and achieved results, managed risk, and modeled leadership attributes,” Inslee said. “They and their staff are responsible stewards of Washington residents’ resources as they serve capably and honorably every day.”

A selection committee composed of agency directors and members of Inslee’s staff chose the winners based on demonstrated performance.

Two WSP Scientists Win Major Awards

Two forensic scientists from the Seattle Crime Lab recently received achievement awards for their excellent contributions to forensic science.

Terry McAdam received the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board’s (ASCLD/LAB) Longhetti/Keaton Assessor Excellence Award.

This award recognizes an inspector or assessor who has a history of dedicated service to ASCLD/LAB, while exhibiting the positive attributes expected of an inspector/assessor. McAdam has served for years as an ASCLD/LAB inspector/assessor in laboratories throughout the world.

Rick Wyant received the Walter Howe Member of the Year Award from the Association of Firearm and Tool Marks Examiners (AFTE). This award recognizes AFTE members who have assisted the association in an outstanding manner. Wyant is an AFTE Distinguished Member, and co-chaired the 2014 AFTE Host Committee for the Seattle meeting.
Sergeant, Trooper Lose Homes to Fire

On July 17, 2014, as fires raged through Okanogan County from the Carlton Complex fires, Sergeant Lex Lindquist #177 and Trooper Ted Shook #514, from the Okanogan Detachment, spent their day shift working road closures on State Route 97 and State Route 153 in the Pateros – Brewster area as well as assisting with evacuations.

Early in the evening Sergeant Lindquist was informed that the fires were quickly approaching the area of his residence and residents were being told to evacuate immediately. Sergeant Lindquist, his wife Michelle and their two children, gathered their animals, a number of horses and dogs, with the help of a friend and a neighbor. They had enough time to grab a few personal items that they threw in their RV trailer and got out their driveway before the flames swept down the hill right behind their home. Michelle said the flames were right to the car as she drove down their road.

They were able to evacuate their vehicles and all their animals, with the exception of a few chickens, before their home and all their outdoor structures were lost to the fire. Once he evacuated his family from their residence, Sergeant Lindquist returned to work to continue with road closures and evacuation notifications.

About 7:30 that evening, Trooper Shook was called out to assist with the road closures of SR 153, SR 97, and SR 17 as well as giving evacuation notifications in the Pateros and Brewster area. While he was working, he was notified the fire was burning close to both his house near the Alta Lake State Park and his parent’s house at Indian Dan Canyon Road between Pateros and Brewster off SR 97.

Trooper Shook continued to work throughout the evening believing that both homes were a loss. He stayed in Omak at Trooper Goodall’s residence that night. The next morning Trooper Goodall was able to confirm that Trooper Shook’s residence and Ford pickup were destroyed at Alta Lake but his parent’s house had made it through the fire.

The Lindquist family, as well as their animals, are currently staying with friends in the Omak area. Trooper Shook is currently staying in Omak with the Goodall family.

Support for both employees is being coordinated by the Washington State Patrol Memorial Foundation.

Memorial continued from the front page

Earlier in the day, O’Connell’s widow Alissa unveiled a street sign in Lake Stevens. The street will keep its original name, but a new sign bearing O’Connell’s name was unveiled on the corner of 83rd Avenue SE and 20th Street SE.

Trooper O’Connell’s name was also etched into the granite wall of the Washington State Law Enforcement Officers Memorial following the annual law enforcement Medal of Honor ceremony on May 2, 2014, at the Capitol in Olympia, Washington.

A Washington State Patrol detachment also travelled to Washington, D.C., for the 2014 Police Week, to add O’Connell’s name to the memorial wall dedicated to peace officers.

O’Connell was a motors trooper from Lake Stevens who was with the agency for 16 years. He was killed May 31, 2013, in a collision while working traffic control in Conway related to the Skagit River I-5 bridge collapse. O’Connell was the 28th Washington State Trooper to die in the line of duty.
Identification and Criminal History Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary

In 1974, a newly established Washington State Identification Section (WASIS) opened its doors after an 11-year hiatus from collecting fingerprint cards and criminal histories. On July 1, 2014, current and former Identification and Criminal History employees got together to celebrate the section’s 40th anniversary.

The celebration began with Chief John R. Batiste and Jim Anderson, Division Administrator, thanking all the Identification and Criminal History employees for their hard work over the years and coming to celebrate the 40th anniversary.

“In the beginning, it was about providing quality customer service to the courts, corrections, and law enforcement, and it’s still just as important today,” said Anderson. “But now, half the customers we serve are for civil criminal background investigations.”

In 2013, the section had 495,000 fingerprint submissions with half for civil background checks and the other half made up of submissions for criminal arrests and the Department of Corrections, sex offender registrations, and criminal justice applicants.

Back in 1974, WASIS had 15 employees. Today, the Identification and Criminal History Section has 79 employees and is part of the Criminal Records Division.

One of the many retirees who were at the celebration was retired Captain Paul Schultz, the section’s first commander. In 1974, Schultz was joined by Sergeant Wayne Harsh, Troopers Tim Zandell, Bill Haines, Steve Wagner, Ron Knapp and Frank Wilson, and merit employee Larry Wassman to develop and implement the new unit. In addition to setting up the unit, the group had to figure out what to do with file cabinets containing the 660,000 fingerprint cards, some cards dating back to 1890.

“The old criminal records we had were not useful, so we had to look around to other states to see what we needed,” said Schultz.

Not able to find a state with a system that met their needs, the section ended up using an image storage system developed by the Trans-A-File Company, a subsidiary of J. C. Penney.

“The focus of our system was to identify fingerprints to back up every entry in a criminal history,” said Schultz.

Today, the section continues to provide quality customer service with complete, accurate, and accessible criminal history, expert technical services, and to continue process improvements in the interest of public safety.
SWAT Celebrates 35 Years of Service

On June 20, 2014, WSP’s Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team celebrated 35 years of service with a ceremony at the Academy. Chief John Batiste thanked current and former SWAT members for their service and spoke of the importance the SWAT Team has been to WSP, other agencies, and the citizens of Washington. During the ceremony, Lieutenant Ron Mead, SWAT commander, presented the first “35 Years of Service” coins to eight of the original 12 SWAT members in attendance. Mead, with help from current SWAT Team members, presented to all the other former SWAT members at the ceremony a “35 Years of Service” coin.

After the ceremony, people had the opportunity to meet with current SWAT members who had their vehicles, robots, and other equipment on display, and to watch a demonstration as SWAT’s tactical element fast-roped out of a Blackhawk helicopter onto the Academy’s drive course.

People at the ceremony enjoyed food, photographs from past and present SWAT Teams, and lots of stories of past missions from the former SWAT members. The event showed how former and current SWAT members still have a connection with each other through their dedication of service to the citizens and each other.

The Patrol’s SWAT Team was formed in 1979 with 10 troopers, a lieutenant, and a sergeant. The first class began on April 16, 1979, and ran for four days. The primary mission at the time was to respond to incidents at the State Capitol, and to assist other agencies throughout the state in situations that required the skills of a specialized tactical team. Today, the SWAT Team has 35 members and is made up into three elements: Entry/Tactical, Sniper, and Negotiator/Intelligence. The SWAT Team also includes a team doctor.

The SWAT Team has also diversified its mission over the years. The rapid growth in meth labs in the 1990’s saw the first change to SWAT’s mission. In 1996, Chief Annette Sandberg combined the Clandestine Lab Team with the SWAT Team to respond and process meth labs. Sandberg also changed the team’s name to the Statewide Incident Response Team (SIRT). The SIRT Team’s workload increased as it became the main tactical meth lab team in the state.

The name remained SIRT for the next five years until the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. During the next year, the team went through another transition. Not only was the team still responsible for clandestine meth lab response, it was now responsible for homeland security protection. This included preparing for potential attacks on the state ferry system, dams, the State Capitol, as well as assisting other agencies with their responsibilities.
In 2002, Detective Jason Watson wrote a proposal to have the name changed back to SWAT. It was determined the new SWAT name fit the description of the team’s responsibilities and abilities more accurately. Also at this time, the team added a Latin motto Animo Et Fide, which means Valor and Faith. The motto is written on a banner across the SWAT logo.

During the last 12 years, the SWAT Team’s equipment has greatly improved. SWAT went from using Vietnam era M-16’s and uniforms, to today’s advanced weaponry and protective gear. When SWAT first started, it used old Chevy Suburbans and box vans to drive around in; now it has 40,000 lb. armor vehicles and specially equipped negotiator and command post vehicles.

SWAT had many missions, but here is a list of some of the most notable:

1979  Walla Walla Penitentiary Riot
1982  Trident Submarine and Nuclear Warhead Protest
1983  Ellensburg Barricade
1998  Fort Lewis Suicidal Soldier
1999  World Trade Organization Riots
2003  Edgewood Shooting
2003  National Governors’ Conference
2006  Thurston County Hostage
2007  SWAT Assisting with Marijuana Eradication
2013  Hoquiam/Aberdeen Barricade
2014  Aberdeen Barricade

There are many more events that SWAT has responded to, but these events illustrate the diverse responsibility of the team.

The SWAT Team remains an intricate part of WSP and will continue to be that way for another 35 years.
2013 Annual Awards for Distinguished Service

Looking Beyond the Traffic Stop Award
Trooper Brian F. Luedtke
District 3

This award recognizes troopers who conduct thorough and comprehensive traffic stops, keep their eyes open for rolling criminal activity, and conduct quality follow-up investigations. Selection is based on job performance appraisal, complaint history, driving history, and significant follow-up activities.

Certified Technical Specialist of the Year
Trooper Scott A. Kirkeby
District 1

This award recognizes those troopers who have maintained the highest level of expertise in the field of technical collision investigation.

Commercial Vehicle Division Trooper of the Year
Trooper Andrew M. Stoeckle

This award recognizes CVD troopers for outstanding service to the agency. Selection is based on job performance, appearance, complaint history, driving history, commendations, support of department programs, and law enforcement activity.

Interior CVEO/CVO of the Year
CVEO 2 Ronald I. Alred

This award is to recognize a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer/Commercial Vehicle Officer for outstanding service to the agency.

Port of Entry CVEO/CVO of the Year
CVEO 2 Jeffrey H. Winslow

This award recognizes a Port of Entry Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer/Commercial Vehicle Officer for outstanding service to the agency.

Detective of the Year
Detective Joi J. Haner
Criminal Investigation Division

This award recognizes the detective considered a subject matter expert in the field of criminal investigations, producing and maintaining the highest quality in investigations.

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Vehicle Identification (VIN) Specialist of the Year
Officer Richard L. Helpenstell
Criminal Investigation Division

This award recognizes VIN Specialists for outstanding work performance and service to the agency.

Communications Officer of the Year
Communications Officer 1 Mariah J. Ware
District 8

This award recognizes communication officers for outstanding service to the agency. Selection is based on quality excellence, commendations, appearance, complaint history, community involvement, and job performance.

Excellence in Safety Award
Forensic Scientist 3 Sarah M. Swenson
Toxicology Laboratory Division

The Excellence in Safety award is presented to an employee recognized by their peers and colleagues for a continued commitment to improve our safety culture by demonstrating concern for fellow workers, promoting safety adherence, offering ideas to improve safety procedures, and contributing to the education and training of the agency’s safety consciousness.

Volunteer Service Award
Joan Brigham
Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau

This award recognizes those employees that provided outstanding service and the highest number of hours given to the agency.

Civil Service Employee of the Year
James J. Hill
Technical Services Bureau

This award recognizes civil service employees for outstanding service to the agency.
2013 District and Bureau Awards

2013 District Troopers of the Year: (names are not in order in photo) Trooper Scott A. Kirkeby, District 1; Trooper Clark G. Jones, District 2; Trooper Brian F. Luedtke, District 3; Trooper Tyler L. Fryberger, District 4; Trooper Matthew N. Hughes, District 5; Trooper Mark A. Ward, District 6; Trooper Shane Rogers, District 7; Trooper Matthew McMillen, District 8.

2013 District Certified Technical Specialists of the Year: (names not in order in photo), Trooper Scott A. Kirkeby, District 1; Trooper Jason D. Kraus (not in photo), District 2; Trooper Corey W. Kingman, District 3; Trooper Troy M. Corkins, District 4; Trooper Brian L. Ashley, District 5; Trooper Matthew K. Andersen, District 6; Trooper Heather A. Axtman, District 7; Trooper Christine E. Kearsing, District 8.

2013 District Looking Beyond the Traffic Stop Awards: (names not in order in photo) Trooper Douglas J. Clevenger, District 1; Trooper Anatoliy V. Nazariya, District 2; Trooper Brian F. Luedtke, District 3; Trooper Randall E. Elkins, District 4; Trooper Justin D. Maier, District 5; Trooper Brett W. Lovell, District 6; Trooper Michael L. McGee, District 7; Trooper Joshua J. Merritt, District 8.

2013 District Communications Officers of the Year: (names not in order in photo) CO 1 Rachel L. Gates, District 1; CO 1 Jannah A. Minnix, District 2; CO 2 Joshua J. Keightley, District 3; CO 1 Tyler N. Oliver, District 4; CO 2 Thomas R. Adams, District 5; CO 1 Jennifer L. Jaspers, District 6; CO 1 Kristen R. Rasmussen, District 7; CO 1 Mariah J. Ware, District 8.

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2013 Bureau Civil Service Employees of the Year: Yvonne Stevens, Budget and Fiscal Services; Tony J. Minter, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau; Deputy State Fire Marshal Barbara Maier, Fire Protection Bureau; Forensic Scientist 3 Asa Louis, Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau; Clara Hamilton, Field Operations Bureau; Brenda A. Biscay, Investigative Services Bureau; James J. Hill, Technical Services Bureau.

2013 District and Bureau Awards continued...

2013 District and Bureau Awards continued...

Restored WSP Mustang is part of 50th Anniversary Celebration

A 1990 WSP Mustang, restored by Retired Trooper Marlin Workman, joins the “Masters of Mustangs” display at the Lemay Museum in Tacoma for the 50th Anniversary of the Ford Mustang.

Workman restored the Mustang to the condition it was in when issued to him in June 1990.

The car was also featured in the national magazine “Mustang Monthly” in 2010. If you go to their web site http://www.mustangandfords.com/mustang-monthly-magazine and type in the search “Washington State Patrol,” it will bring up the article and the information behind the car.

Mustangs were used by the Patrol from 1983 through 1993, with 1990 being the last cars ordered.

They are a special part of the history of WSP and caused quite a stir with the public and the department when they were used. Through 1992, Marlin used this particular car for traffic enforcement on the roads of Eastern Washington. In that area, Marlin needed at times to call on the power of the 225 hp, 5.0-liter engine, and not surprisingly, he reports that the Mustangs were the fastest, best handling, and most dependable cars of the eight cars he was issued during his career.

The car will be on display at the museum until January 15, 2015.
Aviation Rolls Out New FLIR

If you’ve had a chance lately to see any of WSP’s Cessna airplanes, you might be wondering, what’s that high-tech looking gadget on the wing of one of the planes?

The Aviation Section has recently installed its new Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) 380 HD system that’s mounted on the wing instead of the fuselage.

The new FLIR system advances the capabilities of the WSP aircraft by giving it the ability to conduct speed enforcement at night. The system combines hi-definition color cameras with a laser range finder and tracking software that allows for targeting of vehicles without the need for roadside markings, giving the tactical flight officer (TFO) the ability to read vehicle speeds in 15 seconds, unlike the two minutes needed with the older FLIR systems and stop watches.

“There is no system like this currently available for law enforcement,” said Lieutenant Jim Nobach, Aviation Section commander. “Aviation worked very closely with FLIR Systems, Churchill Navigation, and the FAA to design, install, and receive approval for this system.”

The new cameras and laser range finder on the plane’s wing also required upgrades to equipment onboard for the TFO, making the system more stable to operate.

“The controls I use to operate the cameras and laser range finder have a similar feel to an Xbox controller,” said Trooper Ryan Santhuff, a pilot/TFO with the Aviation Section.

Jason L. Ashley was promoted to RCW Lieutenant effective June 1, 2014, assigned to the Office of Professional Standards.

Ashley was born in Aberdeen and graduated from South Bend High School in South Bend, Washington. He attended Grays Harbor College, where he earned an Associate in Arts Degree in General Studies and an Associate in Science Degree in Criminal Justice.

Ashley began his career with the WSP on June 16, 1997, as a Temporary Clerk Typist assigned to the Kelso Detachment.

On April 13, 1998, he was assigned to the Raymond Detachment as a Temporary Office Assistant. He became a trooper cadet on October 19, 2000, assigned to the Training Division.

Ashley was assigned to Mansion Security on December 11, 2000, and then was assigned to Labor and Industries on April 23, 2001.

He graduated with the 87th Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned on March 15, 2002, assigned to Morton.

On August 1, 2008, he promoted to RCW Sergeant, assigned to Naselle.

Ashley transferred back to Morton on March 1, 2009.

He transferred to the Special Operations Division Mansion Detachment on July 1, 2012.

On January 16, 2013, Ashley was selected for a detective position with the Criminal Investigation Division in Olympia.

Shannon I. Bendiksen was promoted to RCW Lieutenant effective June 1, 2014, assigned to Kennewick.

Bendiksen graduated from Timberline High School in Lacey, Washington. She attended Brigham Young University and the University of Portland, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education.

Bendiksen began her career with the WSP on February 22, 2000, as a trooper cadet assigned to the Accident Records Section.

On May 25, 2000, she was assigned to Vessel and Terminal Security.

She graduated with the 86th Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned on June 16, 2001, assigned to Marysville.


On November 1, 2009, Bendiksen was promoted to RCW Sergeant, assigned to Marysville.

She transferred to the Office of Professional Standards Internal Affairs Section on September 16, 2010.

Shannon transferred to the Training Division on December 1, 2012.

Thomas O. Martin was promoted to RCW Lieutenant effective February 16, 2014, assigned to Kennewick.

He then transferred to the Field Operations Bureau Headquarters on June 1, 2014.

Martin graduated from the California Maritime Academy with two Bachelor of Science Degrees, one in Mechanical Engineering and the other in Marine Engineering. Martin earned a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from City University of Seattle in December 2008.

Martin served in the U.S. Navy’s flight program from November 1989 through November 1990. He then joined the U.S. Coast Guard in August 1993 and transferred into the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve in July 1996.

He is currently a commander and actively drills in Colorado at NORTHCOM/NORAD.

Martin began his employment with the Washington State Patrol on July 8, 1996, as a trooper cadet assigned to Bellevue Communications.

He was commissioned as a trooper on April 16, 1997, assigned to Bremerton.

On October 2002, he was assigned as a detective with the Investigative Assistance Division, Computer

continued on next page
Bassett graduated with the 85th Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned on August 16, 2000, assigned to Bellevue.

In 2007, Bassett was awarded District Certified Tech of the Year for District 2.

Effective November 1, 2009, Bassett was appointed to a trooper detective position, assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division in Tacoma.

**David V. Kaiser** was promoted to RCW Sergeant effective March 16, 2014, assigned to Bellevue.

Kaiser was born in Sunnyside, Washington, and graduated from Sunnyside Christian High School. He received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Central Washington University in June 1998.

Kaiser began his career with WSP on June 27, 1995, as a trooper cadet. He graduated with the 75th Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned on January 23, 1996, assigned to Seattle.

On April 23, 1997, he transferred to District 1, assigned to Olympia. He later transferred to District 6, assigned to Okanogan on March 18, 2002.

**Lex C. Lindquist** was promoted to RCW Sergeant effective March 16, 2014, assigned to Okanogan.

Lindquist was born in Cottage Grove, Oregon, and graduated from Cottage Grove High School. He served in the United States Army for 26 years and retired from Military Service in 2010. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology in 1994 from the University of Oregon.

Lindquist began his career with WSP on June 27, 1995, as a trooper cadet. He graduated with the 75th Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned on January 23, 1996, assigned to Seattle.

On April 23, 1997, he transferred to District 1, assigned to Olympia. He later transferred to District 6, assigned to Okanogan on March 18, 2002.

**Dennis R. Wojciechowicz** was promoted to RCW Sergeant, effective March 16, 2014, assigned to Burlington.

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Wojciechowicz was born in Chicago and graduated from Truman High School in Independence, Missouri. Wojciechowicz began his career with WSP on March 27, 2006, as a trooper cadet assigned to the Training Division as part of the 16th Arming Class.

He graduated with the 93rd Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned on November 1, 2006, assigned to Marysville.

Jeremy N. Marceau was promoted to Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 3, effective March 1, 2014, assigned to the Training Academy in Shelton.

Marceau was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and graduated from Hanford High School in Richland, Washington.

Marceau began his career with WSP on June 2, 2008, as a trooper cadet assigned to the Homeland Security Division in Seattle.

On June 28, 2010, Marceau joined the Commercial Vehicle Division as a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 1, assigned to the Plymouth Port of Entry.

He was promoted to CVEO 2 on July 16, 2013, assigned to the New Entrant Safety Program in Olympia and worked out of Pasco.

Pamala G. Striker was promoted to Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 3, effective May 1, 2014, remaining with the Motor Carrier Safety Division in Ridgefield.

Striker was born in Vancouver, Washington, and graduated from Evergreen High School in Vancouver. She received her Associate Degree from Clark Community College in Administration of Justice in 1987, and then went on to earn her Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology and Criminal Justice from Washington State University in 1998. Striker honorably served four years in the United States Navy.

Striker began her career with WSP on February 2, 2002, as a Commercial Vehicle Officer 1, assigned to the Ridgefield Port of Entry.

On August 1, 2007, Striker promoted to Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 1, remaining at the Ridgefield Port of Entry.

Striker promoted to Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 2 on February 16, 2008, assigned to Compliance Review in Vancouver.

Striker transferred back to the Ridgefield Port of Entry on June 1, 2009.

Lee M. Pennington was promoted to Construction and Maintenance Project Supervisor with the Property Management Division, effective April 16, 2014.

Pennington was born in Seattle and graduated from Tumwater High School.

Pennington began his career with WSP on April 1, 1983, as a Carpenter.

On July 25, 1983, he held a temporary appointment as a General Repairer.

In 1985, the position was reallocated to Plant Mechanic.

On July 13, 1989, the position was reallocated from Plant Mechanic to Scale Technician.

On July 1, 2005, the position was reallocated to Maintenance Specialist.

On January 1, 2006, the position was reallocated to Maintenance Mechanic 3.

Elizabeth K. Bacon, Information Technology Specialist 2, Information Technology Division, eff: 05/16/14;
Darrell W. Barnes, Maintenance Mechanic 3, Property Management Division, eff: 05/16/14;
Laura D. Barnhart, Administrative Assistant 3, Office of Professional Standards, eff: 05/01/14;
Wendy A. Brooks, Secretary Senior, Commercial Vehicle Division, eff: 05/16/14;

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**People People People**

Alec N. Caldwell, Communications Officer 1, Bremerton Communications, eff: 05/01/14;
Karen L. Cline, Secretary Senior, Budget and Fiscal Services, eff: 05/01/14;
Stephanie A. Hickman, Administrative Assistant 3, Criminal Records Division, eff: 04/16/14;
Rene F. Hoopes, Information Technology Specialist 4, Information Technology Division, eff: 04/16/14;
Leanne K. Howard, Communications Officer 1, Tacoma Communications, eff: 04/22/14;
Krystle A. King, Human Resource Consultant Assistant 1, Human Resource Division, eff: 05/01/14;
Alec N. Caldwell, Communications Officer 1, Bremerton Communications, eff: 05/01/14;
Karen L. Cline, Secretary Senior, Budget and Fiscal Services, eff: 05/01/14;
Stephanie A. Hickman, Administrative Assistant 3, Criminal Records Division, eff: 04/16/14;
Rene F. Hoopes, Information Technology Specialist 4, Information Technology Division, eff: 04/16/14;
Leanne K. Howard, Communications Officer 1, Tacoma Communications, eff: 04/22/14;
Krystle A. King, Human Resource Consultant Assistant 1, Human Resource Division, eff: 05/01/14;
Erica J. Soha, Management Analyst 1, Property Management Division, eff: 05/16/14;
Amy J. Sren, Criminal Records Technician 1, Criminal Records Division, eff: 05/16/14;
Kimberly R. Stewart, Information Technology Specialist 4, Information Technology Division, eff: 05/01/14;
Manuel V. Udarbe, Human Resource Consultant Assistant 2, Human Resource Division, eff: 05/18/14;
Brittany M. Wasmund, Communications Officer 1, Marysville Communications, eff: 05/19/14;
Holly T. White, Contracts Specialist 1, Budget and Fiscal Services, eff: 04/16/14.

**WSP Service Pins**

30 years
Edward Thomas, Information Technology Specialist, July 3;
Sergeant Gerald Cooper, August 6;
Trooper Daniel Dale, August 13.

25 years
Michael Carlson, Senior Telecommunications Specialist, July 31;
CVEO 2 Ronald Hyatt, August 1;
Coral Herron, Office Assistant 3, August 7;
Trooper Robert Aucutt, August 25;
Trooper Norman Beler, August 25;
Trooper Nicholas Gerard, August 25;
Assistant Chief Chris Gundermann, August 25;
Trooper Patrick Lunning, August 25;
Sergeant Leonard Walker, August 25;
Lynn Whitesell, Electronic Design Engineer, August 28.

20 years
Karrie Cheek, Office Assistant 3, July 13;
Michael Kildow, Senior Telecommunications Specialist, August 1;
CVEO 3 Gary Park, August 1;
CVEO 3 Robert Robinson, August 15;
Tanya Pierce, Fiscal Analyst 3, August 19;
Trooper Alice Collins, August 22;
CVEO 1 Stephen Erickson, August 29.

15 years
Trooper Michael Allan, July 1;
Sandra Distefano, July 1;
Trooper Juli Gundermann, July 1;
Sergeant Jason Hicks, July 1;
Trooper Daniel Nilles, July 1;
Sergeant James Prouty, July 1;
Trooper Stephen Robley, July 1;
Trooper Steven White, July 1;
Trooper Scott Brown, July 2;
Trooper Kevin Nelson, July 2;
Sergeant Gabriel Olson, July 2;
Trooper Jeffery Southards, July 2;
Trooper Christopher Thorson, July 2;
CVEO 1 Ronald Griffith, July 12;
Norma Moreno, Confidential Secretary, July 12;
Cheryl Jordon, Office Assistant 3, July 16;
Trooper Troy Corkins, July 19;
Trooper Luis Gonzalez, July 19;
Merri Springer, Program Specialist 2, July 19;
Tracy Perkins, Transportation Planning Technician 2, July 26;
Melody Maples, Fiscal Analyst 2, July 28;
Diane Fossett, Information Technology Specialist 4, July 30;
Trooper Timothy Crane, August 2;
Suzanne Esquivel, Vehicle Identification Number Officer, August 2;
Daniel Warner, Maintenance Mechanic 3, August 23;
Trooper Edward Collins, August 30;
Lynn Lines, Office Assistant 3, August 30.

10 years
Dan LaFreniere, Maintenance Mechanic 3, July 4;
James Morelli, Transportation Planning Specialist 2, July 6;
Janice Wu, Forensic Scientist 3, July 6;
Jennifer Nuse, Safety Officer 2, July 12;
Odis Cline, Fiscal Technician 2, July 26;
Daniel Tormanen, Information Technology Specialist 5, August 1;
Leslie Frogner, Maintenance Mechanic 3, August 9;
Lois Lee, Office Assistant 3, August 9;
Darrell Barnes, Equipment Technician 3, August 23;
Jeremy Hagquist, Information Technology Specialist 6, August 25.

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People

5 years
Katie Mascio, Research Analyst 2, July 6;
Erica Soha, Office Assistant 3, July 16;
Dory Nicpon, Legal Officer, August 1;
Jacob Kon, Communications Officer 1, August 16;
Marianne Patton, Office Assistant 3, August 16;
Moses Garcia, Special Deputy, August 24.

Deaths

Retired Sergeant William (Bill) Edson passed away on May 9. Edson worked for many years in District 7’s east beat before transferring to and retiring from Colville in 1984.

Fred Merrill, father of retired Sergeant Kirk Merrill, passed away on May 14 at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Chewelah.

Garry L. Pickard, father-in-law to Sharon Pickard, Transportation Planning Technician 2 with the Collision Records Section, passed away on May 16 of natural causes.

Cloris F. Floyd, 75, sister of Communications Officer 4 Monte Simpson, passed away on May 21 at Franciscan Hospice in Tacoma following a prolonged illness.

Monica Denton, 69, mother-in-law of Communications Officer 3 Staci Denton, passed away on May 24 after a prolonged illness.

Alice Siegfried, 76, wife of retired Utilities & Transportation Commission Officer Ben Welch, and grandmother of Communications Officer Zachary Gagnon, passed away on May 28 after a prolonged illness.

Judy Linn, 61, mother of Lieutenant Jason Linn, passed away at Central Washington Hospital in Wenatchee, on May 30 after suffering a stroke.

Andrew Derrick, 23, son of Commercial Vehicle Division Sergeant Devyn Derrick, Spokane, and grandson of retired Sergeant Dan Derrick, passed away unexpectedly on May 31.

Socorro Zapata, 89, mother of Communications Officer 2 Barbara Marxer, passed away on June 9 of natural causes.

Victor P. Armond, father of Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 1 Bruce Armond and longtime resident of Port Angeles, passed away peacefully in his home on June 14.

Eunice Stritzke, 91, grandmother of Forensic Scientist David Stritzke, passed away on June 16.

Mavis Larson, mother of retired Trooper Darold Larson and mother-in-law of Communications Officer 3 Laura Larson, passed away in Yakima on July 1.

Virginia Norwood, 65, mother-in-law of Jennifer Norwood, Contracts Assistant, Budget and Fiscal Services, passed away in Camden, South Carolina, on July 10.

2014 RWSPEA Annual Meeting

September 11-14, 2014
Columbia Sun RV Resort
103907 Wiser Parkway
Kennewick WA
855-833-3886
or
509-420-4880

To make reservations let the resort know you are attending the RWSPEA annual meeting.

For more information about the RWSPEA or the annual meeting, go to their Web site www.rwspea.org

Learn more about WSP, WDFW Joint Chaplaincy Program

The Washington State Patrol and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Joint Chaplaincy program is in its third year of providing additional resources to help with the mental, physical, and spiritual well-being of our employees and their families.

For more information click the following link to watch a video WSP and WDFW Joint Chaplaincy or go to YouTube.com and type in WSP and WDFW Joint Chaplaincy.
LaDonna L. Browell retired on June 30, 2014, after more than 33 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Browell was born in Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, and graduated from Continuation High School in Spokane.

Browell began her career with WSP on May 5, 1980, as a Communications Officer 1 in Ephrata.

She separated from the agency on February 28, 1981, but returned on January 4, 1982, as a Temporary Communications Officer 1 in Hoquiam.

On March 22, 1982, she transferred to Bremerton, and transferred again on December 13, 1982, to Spokane.

On October 4, 1984, Browell was promoted to Communications Officer 2, assigned to Spokane.

As a Communications Officer 2, she held positions in Spokane, Bellevue, and Everett.

Browell was promoted to Communications Officer 3 on December 1, 1986, assigned to Bremerton.

Browell took a voluntary demotion as a Communications Officer 1 on September 24, 1990, and was assigned to Spokane Communications, but was promoted back to the rank of Communications Officer 3 on July 1, 1992.

On December 13, 1999, Browell was promoted to Communications Officer 4, assigned to Yakima Communications, and on December 1, 2003, she transferred to Spokane, where she remained until her retirement.

George E. Brown retired on June 30, 2014, giving 27 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Brown was born in Longview, Washington, and graduated from Campus High School in Wichita, Kansas. He served honorably in the United States Air Force for four years as an Air Traffic Controller.

Brown began his employment with WSP on April 1, 1987, as a Temporary Project Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 1, assigned to Mt. Vernon.

He was transferred into a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 1 position in the Bow Hill Port of Entry on April 4, 1988.


On April 9, 1993, Brown was promoted to a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 2, assigned to Spokane.

He was promoted on April 26, 1995, to a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 3, assigned to Bellevue.

On March 16, 2001, Brown transferred to Marysville, where he remained for the rest of his career.

Marylyn R. Conachen retired on May 30, 2014, after more than 13 years of dedicated service to WSP and 15 years to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Conachen was born in Kalispell, Montana, and graduated from Cheney High School in Cheney, Washington. Prior to joining WSP, Conachen worked for the Department of Corrections as an Office Assistant Senior.

Note to those about to retire

When completing your retirement preparations and if you wish to continue receiving information from the WSP Memorial Foundation, go to [http://www.wspmf.org](http://www.wspmf.org), or the Retired Washington State Patrol Employees Association (RWSPEA) (go to [secretary@rwspea.org](mailto:secretary@rwspea.org) to update your contact information or to become a member).
Conachen began her employment with WSP on November 1, 2000, as an Office Assistant in Spokane.

On June 1, 2005, her position was reallocated to an Office Assistant 2, a position she held until her retirement.

Larry R. Conley retired on June 12, 2014, after 25 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Conley was born in Paintsville, Kentucky, and graduated from Paintsville High School in Paintsville, Kentucky. He honorably served over five years in the United States Army.

Conley began his career with WSP on June 30, 1989, as a trooper cadet assigned to Walla Walla. He attended the 69th Trooper Basic Training Class on March 2, 1987, and was commissioned on February 10, 1990, assigned to Bellevue.

On July 1, 1991, Conley transferred to Kennewick, and transferred on January 20, 2000, to the Training Division as an Academy Instructor.

Conley was promoted to RCW Sergeant on July 15, 2004, assigned to Kelso. He transferred to a detective position with the Internal Affairs Section in Lacey on September 1, 2004.

On October 2, 2006, Conley transferred to Shelton. He then transferred back to the Internal Affairs Section in Olympia as a detective on October 16, 2007.

Conley transferred to Shelton on July 16, 2008, where he stayed for the remainder of his career.

David E. Cromer retired on June 30, 2014, after more than 15 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Cromer was born in Seattle and graduated from Rainier Beach High School in Seattle. He earned his Associates Degree from Green River College in Engineering Technology.

Cromer began his career with WSP on May 10, 1999, as a Scale Technician with the Property Management Division.

On July 1, 2003, Cromer’s position was reallocated back to the Internal Affairs Specialist, and was reallocated again on January 1, 2006, to a Maintenance Mechanic 3, a position he held until his retirement.

Patricia A. Geppert retired on June 30, 2014, after more than 15 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Geppert was born in Somerville, Massachusetts, and graduated from Brookline High School in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Geppert began her career with WSP on October 26, 1998, as an Office Trainee assigned to the Criminal Records Division Identification Section.

She transferred to Budget and Fiscal Services on December 7, 1998.

On February 14, 2000, Geppert promoted to an Office Assistant Senior, assigned to the Traffic Investigation Division.

Geppert transferred to the Administrative Services Section on July 1, 2003.

She transferred to the Property Management Division Facilities Section on July 1, 2011, where she remained until her retirement.

Blaine D. Gunkel retired on June 2, 2014, giving over 25 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Gunkel was born in Ronan, Montana, and graduated from

continued on next page
Dr. Douglas C. Jones

Jones began his employment with WSP on March 24, 1989, as a trooper cadet assigned to Moses Lake. He graduated with the 69th Trooper Basic Training Class, and was commissioned as a trooper on February 12, 1990, assigned to Bellevue.

On December 23, 1991, he transferred to District 2, assigned to Enumclaw.

On November 5, 2001, Jones transferred to the Breath Test Program in Seattle, where he remained until his retirement.

Raymond C. Norris retired on May 29, 2014, after more than 18 years of dedicated service to WSP and 23 years to the citizens of the state of Washington. Norris was born in Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Olympia High School in Olympia. He served in the United States Navy and received an Honorable Discharge.

His state service began with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission on May 16, 1991, in Pasco. He transferred to Kent as a Motor Vehicle Law Enforcement Officer 2, on February 1, 1992.

Norris began with WSP on January 1, 1996, as a Commercial Trooper.
Vehicle Enforcement Officer 2 in Kent.

He transferred to Bellevue on February 23, 1998.

On April 1, 2011, Norris transferred to Compliance Review North, where he remained until his retirement.

**Julieann M. Olson** retired on May 15, 2014, giving over 25 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington. Olson was born in Spokane and graduated from Tekoa High School in Tekoa, Washington.

Olson began her employment with WSP on November 4, 1988, as a trooper cadet assigned to Mansion Security.

Olson graduated with the 68th Trooper Basic Training Class and was assigned to District 3 Yakima.

On July 11, 2000, Schuster was promoted to RCW Sergeant, assigned to the Commercial Vehicle Division in Bremerton.


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**Robert K. Petersen** retired on June 30, 2014, after more than 33 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington. Petersen was born in Seattle and graduated from Sutherland High School in Sutherland, Iowa.

Petersen began his career with WSP on September 8, 1980, as a Communications Officer 1 in Everett. On May 21, 1984, he promoted to a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 1, assigned to the Everett Port of Entry.

He promoted to a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 2 on April 16, 1990, assigned to District 8 Bremerton.


On September 1, 2000, he promoted to a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer 4, assigned to Olympia, where he remained for the rest of his career.

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**Neil E. Schuster** retired on July 9, 2014, after more than 25 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Schuster was born in Wenatchee and graduated from Wenatchee High School. In June 1986, he received an Associate in Arts Degree from Wenatchee Valley College.

Schuster began his employment with WSP on October 21, 1988, as a trooper cadet assigned to Vehicle Inspections in Goldendale. He graduated with the 68th Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned as a trooper on June 29, 1989, assigned to District 3 Yakima.

Schuster transferred to the Homeland Security Division in Bremerton on July 16, 2007, where he remained until his retirement.

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The Inside Out is always looking for interesting stories about life after the Patrol. Be it new adventures, business, volunteer or non-profit work.

Contact the Inside Out at (360) 596-4012 or insideout@wsp.wa.gov
Herbert L. Slemp retired on June 13, 2014, giving over 29 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington. Slemp was born in St. Helens, England, and graduated from Tarkio High School in Tarkio, Missouri. He served honorably in the United States Air Force for one year.

Slemp began his career with WSP on June 21, 1985, as a trooper cadet assigned to Bremerton Communications. He graduated from the 62nd Trooper Basic Training Class and was commissioned on December 20, 1985, assigned to Tacoma.

On May 1, 1987, Slemp was appointed as a Motors Trooper. On January 11, 1988, he transferred to District 4, Colfax. On May 10, 1994, he was awarded 1993 Trooper of the Year for District 4.

He received the Medal of Courage for his response to the Washington State University riot on May 3, 1998. Slemp was promoted to RCW Sergeant on September 16, 1998, assigned to Spokane.

On July 10, 2000, he transferred to the Commercial Vehicle Division in Spokane.

Slemp was appointed to detective sergeant, assigned to Quad-Cities Drug Task Force in Asotin, on August 1, 2007.

Scott R. Wernecke retired on May 15, 2014, giving over 27 years of dedicated service to WSP and to the citizens of the state of Washington.

Wernecke was born in Charleston, South Carolina. He served for five years in the United States Marine Corps, and in the Washington Air National Guard.


Wernecke graduated with the 66th Trooper Basic Training Class, and was commissioned as a trooper on January 8, 1988, assigned Bellevue. On March 27, 1989, he transferred to Bremerton. He transferred to Oak Harbor on February 11, 1991. While in Oak Harbor, Wernecke was appointed the Problem Oriented Public Safety (POPS) trooper.

Wernecke transferred to the Commercial Vehicle Division on July 16, 2003, with assignments in Marysville and Burlington, remaining in District 7 until his retirement.

In 2006, Wernecke was selected as the Commercial Vehicle Division Trooper of the Year for District 7.

The Washington State Patrol recognizes and honors the officer who served with distinction and died in the line of duty during the month of July.

Trooper Clifford Hansell was killed July 22, 1987, at the age of 25. His patrol car collided broadside with the front of a semi-truck on North Central Avenue in downtown Kent as he swerved while responding to a collision scene.

At the time of his death, Trooper Hansell had served 17 months with WSP.
Memorial Foundation Board of Directors Vacancies

Six positions will be open for the Washington State Patrol Memorial Foundation Board of Directors election in September. The vacancies include three for commissioned employees, two for civil service employees, and one for disability/retired position.

To be eligible to run for election, you must be a contributing member ($5 per month or the yearly equivalent) for a period of one year prior to the election.

Board members are expected to attend monthly evening board meetings in Olympia. The Foundation is looking for board members who are willing to be significantly involved with the annual Memorial Foundation dinner, including fund-raising and donation solicitation, event set-up, and volunteering at the dinner. Board members are also expected to participate in several other Memorial Foundation sponsored events throughout the year. All interested persons meeting the criteria are encouraged to participate. The term is from October 2014 to October 2016.

Submit your name in writing by August 20, 2014, with a brief narrative (less than 75 words) of why you would like to be a director. The narrative will appear on the ballot.

Please email your narrative to Sharon@wspmf.org or mail to: WSP Memorial Foundation, P.O. Box 7544, Olympia, WA 98507. If you have any questions, please call Sharon Phillips, Foundation manager; at (360) 597-4411 in Olympia.

Mission Statement: We, the Washington State Patrol Memorial Foundation, are entrusted to preserve the memory of Washington State Patrol fallen officers and to provide assistance to active and retired Washington State Patrol employees and their families in times of need.

Since 1983, the Foundation has provided over $1.6 million in financial assistance to Washington State Patrol employees and their families.

Retired Trooper Dies While Fighting Wildfire

Former Trooper Robert Koczewski, 67, died on July 21, 2014, while trying to keep the flames from destroying his home during the massive Carlton Complex Fire.

Koczewski and his wife watched the valley go up in flames and they’d seen it happen before, so they grabbed some water hoses and hoped for the best.

Koczewski died of an apparent stroke as he tried to protect his home and a neighbor’s property from the fire.

After spending 26 years in the Marine Corps, and more than a decade with the Washington State Patrol, Koczewski and his wife retired to central Washington.
Attendance Breaks Record at Annual WSP Memorial Foundation Dinner

The 32nd Washington State Patrol Memorial Foundation Dinner was held on May 3, 2014, at the Tulalip Resort in Marysville. The annual dinner honored our 28 Washington State Patrol officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. Family members of the following fallen officers attended the dinner and were our honored guests:

- Trooper Sean O’Connell, Jr. – E.O.W. May 31, 2013
- Trooper James Saunders – E.O.W. October 7, 1999
- Trooper Steven Frink – E.O.W. March 22, 1993
- Trooper Thomas Hendrickson – E.O.W. November 17, 1974
- Officer Joseph Modlin – E.O.W. August 15, 1974
- Trooper Frank Noble – E.O.W. February 5, 1972

Trooper Aaron Norton and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer Drew Jones (Core Values Award recipients from the 102nd Trooper Basic Training Class and 6th Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer Basic Training Class) read the names of our fallen officers.

This year’s dinner had a record-breaking attendance of 686 family and friends of our fallen officers. During the evening, Chief John Batiste presented Captain Jeff Sass and members of Trooper Sean O’Connell’s detachment photographs of all of our WSP fallen officers. The detachment placed the photographs near the names of our WSP fallen on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC during National Police Week, May 11-17, 2014. The Memorial Foundation sent members of Trooper Sean O’Connell’s family and his detachment to attend National Police Week.

The $35,000 net proceeds from the dinner/auction/raffle will be placed into the WSP Memorial Foundation Fallen Officers Children’s College Education Account.

The top two raffle winners were:

- Casandra Leonard – Two night stay at the Olympia Lodge in Port Angeles, 18 holes of golf for two, plus a $100 gift card
- Jason Armstrong – One night stay at the Alderbrook Resort & Spa

Live auction successful bidders:

- Mark Soper – Porsche for the weekend
- Dave Hintz – Pearson’s “Lock & Load” Custom Table
- Sherri Benedict – Palm Desert three night getaway
- Patrick Slack – Two Roundtrip Jet Blue Travel Certificates

The 2015 WSP Memorial Foundation Dinner will be held on April 18, 2015, at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, WA. Go to http://www.wspmf.org/news.htm for information.
Retirees Calendar

District 1
Tacoma - retiree breakfast group meets on the first Friday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the Homestead Restaurant, 7837 S. Tacoma Way in Tacoma.

Olympia - retiree meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. The meeting location is Nickelby’s at 600 Trosper Rd. S.W. in Tumwater (on the right, off exit 103).

District 2 South Seattle - retirees meet at 11:30 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, at Randy’s Restaurant at 10016 East Marginal Way South in Tukwila.

District 3
Kennewick - retiree meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Old Country Buffet, on the northeast corner of Columbia Center.

Yakima - retirees meet the first month of each quarter, on the 3rd Monday. The noon meeting is held at Shari’s Restaurant, off of North 40th.

District 4 - retirees meet at the Longhorn Barbecue on the last Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. The address is 7611 W. Sunset Hwy, Spokane.

District 5 – retiree meetings have returned to the Oak Tree Restaurant in Woodland. The restaurant is located on the east side of I-5 off Exit 21. Meetings are still on the second Friday of each month for a 7:30 a.m. breakfast. Phone # (360) 225-8446.

District 6 - retirees meet each Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m., Wenatchee Senior Center, 1300 Maple St.

District 7 - retirees meet the second Tuesday of every odd month. The lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. The meeting moves between Skagit and Snohomish counties. Contact District 7 secretary Bridget Hamilton at (360) 654-1108 or email her at bridget.hamilton@wsp.wa.gov for the location of the next luncheon.

District 8 - retirees meet at the Bremerton Airport Diner at 9:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of every other month. The 2014 schedule is September 10 and November 12.

Port Angeles - retirees meet at the Marine Café in Sequim. The group meets at the Marine Café at 11:00 a.m. on the third Monday of every other month. The 2014 schedule is August 18, October 20, and December 15.

Letters

Email received thanking Trooper Brett Robertson, District 1, for his professionalism and courtesy.

I wanted to comment on the professionalism of a trooper that I encountered today. I wish I received his full name, I believe his first name was Bret or Brent and he was patrolling in an unmarked cruiser. This trooper pulled me over around 1630 this afternoon in the area of Waller and 96th in Tacoma. He had pulled me over due to not observing me wearing a seat belt.

After he pulled me over and realized that I was in fact wearing a seat belt, he was very courteous and never accused me of lying about wearing it. I had my 3-year-old daughter in the vehicle with me and this is the part that truly made my day. He engaged her and had a full conversation with her. He was very friendly in his interaction with my young daughter. I hope that interaction sticks with her and helps her perceive law enforcement officers in a positive light.

Thank you for all that y’all do to help ensure our safety.

Clark D. Whitehead III

Email received through the WSP Troopers Association, thanking Trooper Scott Cooley for his compassion to a family who lost relatives at the Oso slide.

Mr. Pillow,

My sister and nephew (Julie and Adam Farnes) were victims of the slide in Oso. Both of my brothers and I drove out to see the site and say goodbye this past Saturday, but were

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stopped a few miles short by Trooper Scott Cooley. I hope I spelled his name correctly. At the time, neither had been confirmed as deceased.

At first he told us that we couldn’t go any further, only residents could go past. When we explained that I had come from California, one brother had come from Missouri, and another brother and his wife had come from Alaska, he asked us to wait. He checked and saw that his relief was on his way.

He told us that if we wanted, he would take us personally to the site in his cruiser. Of course we gratefully accepted his offer. He took all of us to where the responders were working, and walked us down as close as we could get.

We were able to thank several of the responders and pray with two chaplains that were on site (Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, I believe).

Scott then drove us back to our vehicle, shook our hands, and gave us his condolences before leaving.

I want your organization to know just how much we all appreciated what Trooper Cooley did for us. He is a perfect example of what every law enforcement officer should be. I hope there is some way you can recognize him for his compassion that day. I know he isn’t the only trooper to deal with this tragedy, but he is the one that we dealt with, and we are very glad he was there.

Thank you.

Jim Urton, Dan and Ana Urton, Richard Urton

A letter received through the Ritzville District Court, thanking Trooper Carmen Herrington, District 4, for her assistance and “Service With Humility” after a traffic collision.

Dear Judge Adalia A. Hille,
Ritzville District Court

Last week I was driving alone to Great Falls, Montana, to attend a family funeral. Unfortunately, I dozed off while driving and hit a Kenworth double tanker truck. I hit just in front of the back trailer of the truck. You cannot believe how blessed I feel to have had no injuries to the truck driver or myself.

The driver of the truck was kind and patient with me. In a short time the most incredible Washington State Patrol Trooper, Trooper Carmen L. Herrington, was parked behind my car.

Your honor, this is the first time that I have had an encounter with a Washington State Patrol Trooper. What a gentle, efficient, helpful, professional and kind person. She gave me her card and beneath the “Washington State Patrol” line is printed, “Service With Humility.” Trooper Herrington is surely the perfect example.

After Trooper Herrington had finished, I told her that I was simply going to turn around and return to my home.

It was a few miles to the next area where I could turn around. Trooper Herrington left a few minutes before I did. A couple miles down the freeway I saw Trooper Herrington parked in a turnout, observing traffic. As I drove by, she flashed her warning lights on her patrol car. When I turned around and was driving west, Trooper Herrington was parked in another location. As I passed, once again she flashed the warning lights. About ten minutes later, I received a phone call from one of my worried children. I pulled over to the side of the road and answered the phone. Shortly, Trooper Herrington drove past me. One more time, she flashed her warning lights.

What have I learned from this experience?

1. I guess I am getting too old to drive long distances alone.
2. How thankful I am for the Washington State Troopers, as well as all of those who serve us, such as maintenance crews, administrators, judges and those who legislate the laws – few of whom rarely receive a word of “thanks.”
3. I shall include those of you who serve this public so faithfully in my prayers more often.

If you ever meet Trooper Carmen Herrington, you will know what I mean.

Oh yes, here’s the check to show that my repentance is sincere. The penance is adequate; it’s a good thing that it came at about the same time as my Social Security check!

Best wishes,

James R. Ely