

# PATROL NEWS

March/April 2019

“Over 85 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”



*Cover story on page 3.*

# From the Staff ...

**Major Sarah L. Eberhard**  
**Criminal Investigation Bureau**



It is well documented that crime laboratories around the country, including ours, are facing unprecedented backlogs. The services we provide to Missouri law enforcement are both free and invaluable to these agencies. Because of this, a near infinite number of requests for DNA services is in demand—services that have outpaced our capacity and resources. This excessively high demand for DNA services has led the Patrol's Crime Laboratory Division to work beyond its maximum efficiency level.

To address this situation and mitigate the demand for traditional DNA services, the Crime Laboratory Division has purchased a Rapid DNA instrument. Rapid DNA analysis describes the fully automated (hands-free) process of developing a DNA profile in a single instrument without human intervention. With this instrument, the Laboratory will be able to analyze single source DNA samples in 90 minutes, a process that currently takes over 12 hours.

When the Crime Laboratory Division began DNA analysis in 1990, this was revolutionary for law enforcement. At that time, the process required radioactive processing of the DNA, which created an image similar to that of an X-ray. It took approximately 12 weeks to complete a single DNA profile. Today, the Crime Lab Division can produce a DNA profile in roughly 12 hours. However, today's process requires at least three separate instruments, human intervention, and human interpretation of the DNA profile. Rapid DNA allows the DNA Section to produce a DNA profile in 90 minutes on a single instrument with no human intervention.

On August 18, 2017, the National Rapid DNA Act of 2017 was enacted into law. The law only allows reference sample profiles into CODIS, not crime scene samples. Consequently, where 90-minute processing of DNA sounds very enticing, the narrow national scope affects how we will use the instrument and in what capacity. Presently, the Crime Lab is experimenting with and validating the technology. There's much work to be done before we know how the Patrol will apply this technology. Nevertheless, our criminalists are very excited to be the first in Missouri to have access to this technology. Many law enforcement agencies and laboratories outside our state have been successful using Rapid DNA, and we will capitalize and build upon their success.

*Sarah L. Eberhard*

The official publication of the  
Missouri State Highway Patrol

*Celebrating Over 50 Years Of News*

## PATROL NEWS

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Sandra K. Karsten, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Eric T. Olson, Superintendent  
Missouri State Highway Patrol

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# PATROL NEWS

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“Over 85 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”

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## Social Media Snapshot



## How About A Cookie ... ?

Sergeant Scott B. White, Troop F public information and education officer, posted a short video on Facebook bringing attention to the importance of using turn signals. The video showed a patrol car in the background and a cookie passing across the top of the frame. The caption read, “Maybe if drivers got a little snack every time they used a turn signal, they’d use one more often!” It was quite a hit, reaching 228,639 followers and garnering 2,528 reactions, 1,621 shares, and 119K views.

### Cover

*On March 5, 2019, Governor Michael L. Parson appointed Lieutenant Colonel Eric T. Olson as the 24th superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. (Lt. Col. Olson served as acting superintendent since September 1, 2018.) On March 14, 2019, the Missouri Senate confirmed his appointment. Colonel Olson was sworn in during a ceremony in his office on March 15, 2019. A story will appear in the next issue of the Patrol News.*

# PERSPECTIVE

## *Those Left Behind Deserve Title Of Hero*

*By Ret. Lt. Jim Ripley*

With the Internet and social media today the word hero is attached to many people for a single act of bravery. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a hero as, "a person admired for achievements and noble qualities; one who shows great courage." In 2003, while I was standing in the back of the meeting room at Troop A with then-Captain Vince Ellis, I looked at the officers' pictures on the wall, the men who had made the ultimate sacrifice. Each had a small notation below their photograph telling the circumstances of their deaths. I believed then, as I do now, that they were heroes for the way they lived their lives and were bigger than the circumstances of their deaths. I told then-Capt. Ellis I wanted to enhance our memorial to the fallen officers and he supported my effort.

What I discovered early on in my research was that there were additional heroes whose efforts were not born of the choices they made at work in a moment. The wives and survivors of these troopers were left to pick up the pieces of their lives and continue forward when their entire world cap-sized due to a single event. The first Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper killed was Sergeant Benjamin O. Booth on June 14, 1933.

The world was a different place in those days. Women primarily stayed at home and raised families. There were no microwave ovens to warm up a frozen dinner in a minute. There was also no retirement or survivor benefits with which to ease the financial burden of the tragedy into which they had been thrust. Sgt. Booth's widow, Alice Reed Booth, was left with the \$2.50 Sgt. Booth had in his pocket and a Graham-Paige automobile she did not

know how to drive as her only assets. She had no marketable skills and dedicated her life to her children. When she passed away 50 years after her husband's death, four, \$10 bills were found in her effects with a note from four officers who worked with Sgt. Booth telling her to use the money for Christmas for her children.

On December 7, 1941, Trooper Victor O. Dosing was killed near Springfield, MO. His wife, Rosalie, was pregnant with their third child and bedridden with complications when she was notified of her husband's death. With no marketable skills and no source of income Rosalie was forced to attend school and farm out her children to relatives so they could make ends meet.

On September 15, 1943, Trooper Charles P. Corbin was killed in a patrol car accident near Carthage, MO. Tpr. Corbin's wife, Ruby, was left to care for a young daughter and son, G. Paul Corbin, who was just over one year old when his father was killed. She was left to raise her family without any financial assistance and took a job in a hospital laundry until she could move her young family back to Cape Girardeau, MO, to live with her mother. Once there, she was able to find employment in a shoe factory.

Trooper Ross S. Creach was killed by a drunk driver as he directed traffic at an accident near Shelbina, MO, on December 12, 1943. His death occurred two days before his first anniversary on the Patrol. His wife, Charlotte, was at home with her young son and pregnant with a second son when she received the news of her husband's death. Tpr. Creach's funeral was December 16, 1943, which was the same day he was removed from the Patrol's payroll. Charlotte had been a

school teacher and was able to return to that profession. To help surviving widows in the future, she volunteered to assist in any way she could to help establish a pension plan for spouses of members of the Patrol, even though she realized she would not personally benefit from its establishment. The colonel at the time wrote her, "At the present time I know of nothing that can be done toward a retirement plan for members of this organization."

As time went on and the Patrol lost other officers, the financial support improved and eventually The MASTERS was created to help these families get started anew. No amount of financial support could make up for the loss of a husband, father, brother, or son. There are many stories of spouses picking up the pieces, including cases where troopers' injuries prevented them from returning to work. These stories are not unique to the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Other agencies have endured tragedies and ultimately the spouse was left to pick up the pieces.

It is clear from our history that these amazing ladies and others deserve the title of hero. When we honor those who died or were injured in the line of duty we should also remember those who lived, and dedicated their lives for the benefit of others. If you have the time, log onto the Patrol's website and read the stories of these troopers and their families. Not all heroes are famous.

**Editor's note:** Lt. Jim P. Ripley retired in 2013 after 33 years of dedicated service. Capt. Vince J. Ellis retired in 2008 after 36 years of dedicated service. The Ultimate Sacrifice stories are found at [www.msHP.dps.mo.gov](http://www.msHP.dps.mo.gov). There is an icon by the same name in the left, middle part of the Patrol's homepage.

# Teens Act Bravely To Prevent Crash

**Sgt. Scott White, Troop F**

Captain Michael A. Turner, Troop F, presented Miss Gabby Hale and Miss Arissa Huff Missouri State Highway Patrol Honorary Trooper certificates because of their courageous actions on October 30, 2018. This certificate is presented to a non-employee who performs in an exemplary manner, and under dangerous conditions, to aid another, or who unselfishly assists a member in the performance of their duties. These young women were nominated due to their actions after an incident in Gasconade County. The presentation took place Thursday, January 17, 2018, at Troop F Headquarters.

On October 30, 2018, Mr. Ian Huff was driving eastbound on U.S. Highway 50, near Mount Sterling, MO, with his three children. At some point while he was driving in Osage County, Mr. Huff suffered a medical emergency and could no longer influence the speed and direction of the vehicle. Miss Gabby Hale, 14, who was in the back seat, called their mother and 9-1-1. Miss Arissa Huff, 14, was in the

front passenger seat. Miss Huff took over steering the car from her father. Mr. Huff's foot was still on the accelerator, so Miss Huff shifted the car into neutral then safely steered the car to the right shoulder. Once stopped, but with Mr. Huff's foot still forcing the accelerator down, Miss Huff turned the engine off and placed the transmission into park. A third child in the vehicle also was unharmed. Troopers located the vehicle on the shoulder of U.S. 50 at the Gasconade River Bridge. Mr. Huff was conscious, but unresponsive. EMS was directed to the location and treated Mr. Huff.

"Miss Hale and Miss Huff acted quickly and decisively in a dangerous

situation," said Capt. Turner. "We are certain their actions prevented a traffic crash and likely saved lives."



*(l to r) Miss Arissa Huff, Mr. Ian Huff, Miss Gabby Hale, and Capt. Michael Turner, Troop F, pause for a photo after the two young ladies accepted Honorary Trooper certificates.*

## Troop B Refreshes Memorial Wall

**By Sgt. Eric F. Brown, Troop B**

Thanks to the hard work of Troop B's Lieutenant Erik A. Gottman, Assistant Chief Radio Operator Dena R. Applebury, Building and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor Danny L. Wyatt, and Building and Grounds Maintenance II Brad Fouch, the Memorial Wall in Troop B's large conference room received a face lift. During the renovation, this special wall was painted dark blue and accented with a lighter "thin blue line." Custom Pow-

der Systems of Springfield, MO, made two metal Highway Patrol emblems displayed on each side of the photographs along with a laser cut metal "Ultimate Sacrifice" sign displayed at the top of the wall. Black and white photographs framed in black proudly

display the 31 members who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. The police officer's prayer is displayed in a black frame at the bottom, center of the wall. The Memorial Wall is a fitting tribute to our members who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



# Patrol Recognizes Pennewell As Honorary Trooper

By Sgt. Eric Brown, Troop B

On November 13, 2018, the Missouri State Highway Patrol along with multiple agencies and volunteers began searching for a missing person, Ms. Raffaella M. Stroik, near the Missouri Highway 107 boat ramp at Mark Twain Lake. Ms. Stroik's vehicle had been located abandoned in the Highway 107 boat ramp parking lot. A search for Stroik by ground, water, and air on November 13, 2018, was not successful. On November 14, 2018, a large contingency of emergency responders and volunteers resumed the search for Ms. Stroik. Mr. Ollie "Butch" Pennewell, a private pilot, dedicated his time and private aircraft to assist with the search. Just after the ground search began, Mr. Pennewell located what he believed to be a person floating in Mark Twain Lake, near the bank south of the Highway 107 boat ramp. With Mr. Pennewell's assistance, marine enforcement troop-



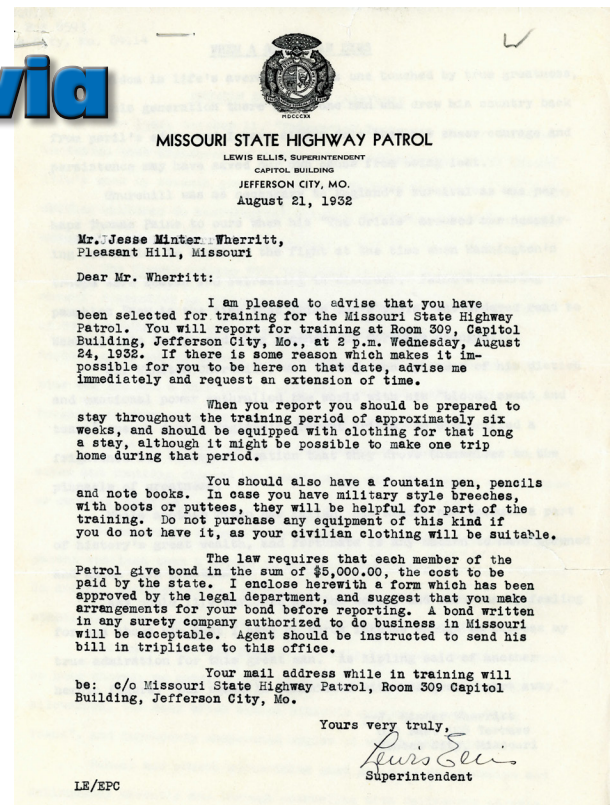
*Sgt. Jason Mattingly, Lt. Nelson Elfrink, Capt. James Wilt, Monroe County Sheriff's Department Capt. Joe Coulston, and Monroe County Deputy Jesse Sparks stand with Mr. Butch Pennewell and his granddaughter for a photo after the Honorary Trooper certificate was presented.*

ers responded to the location and recovered Ms. Stroik's body. Mr. Pennewell acted selflessly by volunteering his time and skills. On behalf of Troop B, Capt. James E. Wilt presented the

Honorary Trooper certificate to Mr. Pennewell to express appreciation for his dedication to his community and to helping people in need.

## Patrol History Trivia

This piece of history from the estate of Captain Jesse M. Wherritt recently arrived in the Public Information & Education Division. Wherritt became a member of the Missouri State Highway Patrol August 24, 1932. Prior to joining the Patrol, he was a pharmacist in Pleasant Hill, MO. He appears in the 1933-1934 Missouri Manual as a patrolman assigned to Troop Headquarters in Jefferson City. Wherritt moved up the ranks quickly: In the 1935-1936 Missouri Manual, he is listed as a sergeant assigned to General Headquarters. Wherritt was a radio-licensed patrolman and became the first director of the Radio Division. He is shown as a captain in that position in the 1937-1938 Missouri Manual. Capt. Wherritt left the agency on December 1, 1946. Also in the envelope from his estate were a few pictures for the Patrol archives and Capt. Wherritt's commission card. Enjoy reading the letter from Col. Ellis!



# Trooper David L. Johnson Accepts DPS Award

By Sgt. Jason M. Pace, Troop D

On Friday, January 25, 2019, Trooper David L. Johnson, Troop D, accepted the Department of Public Safety's Employee of the Month Award for January 2019. The nomination recognized Tpr. Johnson's continued public service to the citizens of Missouri, and specifically, his recent efforts in protecting children.

Tpr. Johnson was appointed to the Patrol on January 16, 2009, as a member of the 89th Recruit Class. During his 10-year career with the Patrol assigned as a road officer, Tpr. Johnson has excelled in traffic and drug enforcement. In 2018, at his current assignment in Polk County, Tpr. Johnson amassed 2,071 total arrests, including 318 drug arrests and 22 driving while intoxicated arrests. Tpr. Johnson has additionally issued 2,061 warnings for various other traffic offenses, while investigating 58 traffic crashes. For the past several years, Tpr. Johnson has led Troop D in the total number of arrests. When it comes to enforcing Missouri's drug laws, he has undoubtedly prevented crime, protected others, and made Missouri a safer place to live.

In addition to the numerous traffic and criminal arrests Tpr. Johnson makes each year, he has evolved as one of the Patrol's leading officers when it comes to protecting children. Last year, troopers began receiving specialized training involving interdiction methods to protect children. While our officers have been well-trained and highly proficient in making observations of suspicious behaviors leading to arrests and successful interdictions of illicit drugs, weapons, and currency, the Patrol's staff felt a need to enhance training and experience in working child victimization cases. In June 2018, Tpr. Johnson attended

the training and within the next three months, he investigated 11 cases and arrested five suspects for charges involving possession of child pornography, failing to register as a sex offender, and violating terms of their sentence.

In one case, Tpr. Johnson stopped a car for following too close on Missouri Highway 13 in Polk County. His interviewing technique during the traffic stop led to the arrest of the driver for possessing child pornography and failure to register as a sex offender.

In another incident, while off-duty with his family, he observed suspicious behavior by a subject in a vehicle at the same park. After he returned to work, Tpr. Johnson followed up with the registered owner, identified him as the driver of the vehicle, and found he was a registered sex offender who was restricted from being at a public park. This same suspect had initially failed to list his vehicle in his sex offender registry information.

"It is an honor when our employees are recognized for the incredible work they do every day," said Lieutenant

Colonel Eric T. Olson, acting superintendent. "Tpr. Johnson is deserving of being named DPS Employee Of The Month, and I commend him for his work ethic, passion, and commitment in supporting the Patrol's mission. Through his diligence in applying the training he received during his enforcement efforts, Tpr. Johnson has had a profound impact on protecting some of our states most vulnerable citizens."

Troop D Captain John M. Enderle stated, "Tpr. David Johnson is an outstanding officer and very deserving to be named the Missouri Department of Public Safety's Employee of the Month. The incredible work Tpr. Johnson has done in the protection of children through criminal interdiction exemplifies the Patrol's core values and embodies the very best of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Southwest Missourians are truly blessed to have Tpr. Johnson patrolling their highways."

*Congratulations, Trooper Johnson!*



Pausing for a picture after the awards ceremony are (l to r) Capt. Norm Murphy, Q/FOB, Major Greg Smith, Q/FOB, DPS Director Sandra Karsten, Tpr. David Johnson, Troop D, Capt. John Enderle, Troop D, and Lt. Col. Eric Olson, acting superintendent.

# Aircraft Maintenance: Keeping An Eye On Things

## Lauf, Schaperclaus Apply Experience, Diligence

*By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED*

As I walked from the Aircraft Division offices to the hangar there was a noticeable drop in temperature. Aircraft Maintenance Supervisor Doug Lauf said this time of year, they keep the temperature between 62 and 65 degrees in the hangar during the day and lower at night. In the warmer months, he and Aircraft Maintenance Specialist Kevin Shaperclaus open the hangar bays and get a nice breeze. If they aren't intentional with which doors and how many, they can create quite a wind tunnel, which wreaks havoc with their paperwork. On those hottest days, the bay doors are up and the fans are blowing.

On this particular day in January, there were two helicopters and three Cessna planes parked in the Patrol hangar. While we were chatting, one of the pilots appeared, opened a bay door, and the KingAir backed smoothly into its parking place. Doug said that all the Patrol's aircraft fleet can fit in its hangar at the same time.

It's a relaxed atmosphere, but there is an underlying sense of responsibility and professionalism. In speaking with Doug and Kevin, you conclude that these two employees are living examples of the Patrol's Core Values.

Between them, they have 70 years of experience maintaining and repairing aircraft. Both learned their profession at what is now State Technical College of Missouri in Linn, MO. Both Doug and Kevin worked for smaller flight services and major airlines before arriving in the Patrol's Aircraft Division; Doug in 2006, and Kevin in 2013. Along with their experience, they brought their integrity and diligence.

"My goal when I started was to not travel, to do it all here," said Doug. But, he and Kevin are more than will-



*Aircraft Maint. Sprv. Doug Lauf (r) removed a fuel pump while Aircraft Maint. Spec. Kevin Schaperclaus detaches the current chin bubble from the Bell 407 helicopter.*



*The Patrol's Bell 407 helicopter's inspection program is strict and detailed.*

ing to travel to an aircraft's location when necessary to make repairs.

Both Doug and Kevin have inspection authorization and can work on the various aircraft. "It takes three to four weeks to complete a helicopter inspection," said Kevin. Not only is the inspection thorough, but sometimes, they have to wait for parts to be shipped to them. Aircraft have an annual inspection and it's more intense than motor vehicle inspection. Pointing to the Bell 407 helicopter currently being inspected, Kevin explained, "We pull out the interior, sometimes the tail rotor, and remove the blades. The challenge of the helicopter maintenance is that it is highly detailed and can become tedious."

Every 12 months, a helicopter's bolts and rotor blades are checked for corrosion. Aircraft maintenance is serious business and the Patrol's mechanics follow all the manufacturer maintenance programs. They were trained by each of the manufacturers. The training is specific for each aircraft because of system and component differences, so Doug and Kevin have each completed training with Bell Helicopter, KingAir with Flight Safety, and McDonnell Douglas (helicopter). Each year, they attend an eight-hour inspection authorization symposium where manufacturers provide speakers on a variety of relevant topics.

*Continued on the next page.*



## — Aircraft

Continued from page 8.

Their inspection authorization designation requires them to fulfill a recurrent training requirement. “Most of the time, we complete so many inspections each year that we’ve met this requirement,” said Doug. A factory school or the symposium also fulfills the recurring training guidelines. They have to renew their inspection authorization every two years. “You have to complete four inspections and four major repairs or attend the annual training,” Doug explained.

“The inspection is the first line of defense,” said Doug. “We have to stay vigilant.” He said they have contact information for the various technical representatives, but their experience and the aircraft manuals are what they rely upon most when troubleshooting.

After the inspection is complete, there is a test flight with whichever pilot is available. In the case of the helicopters, it’s mostly Captain Dave Striegel or Lieutenant Mike Hargus who take the mechanic up. On the test flight, they check their work on the rotor track and balance by evaluating the vibration of the rotors. Using a “Microvib” handheld computer, they learn what if any adjustments need to be made. The vibration must register less than .2 to be acceptable. The Microvib indicates which specific rotor tab to adjust by displaying the color and shape assignment. The color/shape assignments are consistent from the rotor head down to the swash plate.

Nine times out of 10, it’s a pilot who notices something that needs Doug’s or Kevin’s attention. “The pilots are sharp. If they don’t like something they see on the instrument panel, they will text or send a picture,” said Doug. He says they try to fix things before they break and is proud of their approach to keep an eye out for the “little things,” so they don’t become big things.

“I like engines,” said Doug. “I’m a jack-of-all-trades and master of none.”

“He’s pretty slick with troubleshooting engines,” said Kevin. “That’s



*Aircraft Maint. Sprv. Doug Lauf and Aircraft Maint. Spec. Kevin Schaperclaus install a new chin bubble on the Bell 407 helicopter.*

an art in itself.” Kevin said personally, he likes the smaller aircraft more, because there are more skill sets needed. Sheet metal is his specialty and he enjoys working in this area. “Everything on the frame, and windows and doors.” He’d just finished mounting an antenna on the underside of the Bell 407’s tail. With a hull that is only .32 of an inch thick, a mounting plate and doubler must be crafted and assembled to mount an antenna. The extra fabrication is needed to retain the tail’s “damage tolerant” structure.

Kevin finds immense satisfaction when he makes a panel and, “when they can’t tell the difference between something you’ve fabricated and the original.”

Both aircraft mechanics have earned the respect of the pilots with whom they work. “We could not do what we do without them,” said Sergeant Jeff Noack, Q/AD. “They work extended hours and travel when needed. They are always willing to answer technical questions.” Sgt. Noack said Doug and Kevin have great attitudes and listen when a pilot mentions a “squawk” or concern related to a specific flight or aircraft. “They listen to what we say and treat us well.”

Both Doug and Kevin feel they have “awesome support from the pilots.”

“If we need anything, we have to justify the expense, of course,” said Doug. “But, if we need something, we talk to Capt. Striegel and he follows through with staff.”

The removable “chin bubble” on the Bell helicopter is one such example. “We told Captain this would make it easier to get into the nose of the helicopter to work on controls and the radio,” said Kevin. “We got it and really appreciate it.” The Microvib device is another example.

“From my standpoint, maintenance of our aircraft is just as important as our pilot training,” said Capt. Striegel. “Doug and Kevin do an incredible job maintaining our aircraft to keep them in safe condition. We are fortunate to have two mechanics that I trust to keep our aircraft well maintained and safe to fly. When I introduce them, I often say, ‘These are the guys that keep us in the air.’”

Capt. Striegel went on to say Doug and Kevin accept liability every time they sign off aircraft maintenance. “I know their paperwork is in order. If I hear the FAA is here talking to them, I’m not worried about it.”

“I want the pilots to have a boring flight,” said Doug. “If they don’t have anything to say ... that’s what I like.”

# DPS Recognizes Tpr. Klempe's Initiative

*By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb, Q/PIED*

In the very early hours of October 10, 2018, Trooper Ashley Klempe was called to respond to a report of two small girls walking down U.S. Highway 54 in Cole County. The girls were dressed in only pajamas and wore no shoes. They told Tpr. Klempe they were fleeing from an abusive home just outside of Jefferson City.

Despite the reluctance of personnel from other state and local agencies to believe the girls' claims, Tpr. Klempe refused to return the girls to the home. She insisted they be evaluated by medical personnel, at which time evidence was found that supported the girls' claim of severe abuse. Subsequent search warrants of their residence and forensic interviews revealed further evidence of abuse. As a result, six children were placed into protective custody and both parents were arrested and criminally charged.

Because of Tpr. Klempe's initiative and extra effort, six children were removed from a dangerous, abusive environment, and ultimately placed in protective custody. She completed a thorough investigation, which included 16 interviews and multiple search warrants. Without the intervention, dedication, and perseverance of Tpr. Klempe, these victims would still be subject to daily abuse.

"Her dedication to this case showed from the very beginning," said Lieutenant Scott M. Lance, Q/MIAC. Lt. Lance was Tpr. Klempe's zone sergeant at the time of the incident. "She was determined to remove those girls from a dangerous home."

"This case is indicative of Tpr. Klempe's ability and her dedication to her job every day. No one was surprised that she recognized the danger these children were in and took the



*Tpr. Ashley Klempe, Troop F, holds her DPS Employee of the Month Award after the presentation by (l) Lt. Col. Eric T. Olson and (r) DPS Director Sandra Karsten.*

extra steps to help them," said Lt. Chris Harris, Troop F.

It should also be noted that Trooper Klempe's efforts resulted in the Missouri State Troopers Association adopting these two children for Christmas this year. These two children had the opportunity to attend a pizza party in their honor and open Christmas presents donated by the Association.

Tpr. Klempe's actions led to her being named Department of Public Safety's Employee of the Month for February 2019. Captain Mike Turner, Troop F, served as emcee during the award ceremony.

"I want to thank you for your great work on this case," said Lt. Col. Eric T. Olson, acting superintendent. "I appreciate you keeping the bar very high." Lt. Col. Olson presented Tpr. Klempe with a superintendent's challenge coin as he congratulated her. "When I think

of the work you did on this case, the word compassion stands out. I want to thank you for being a fine example of compassion."

DPS Director Sandra Karsten presented the February 2019 DPS Employee of the Month Award to Tpr. Klempe saying she had made a difference to the six children and to the people of Missouri. In addition to a certificate and DPS director's coin, a the DPS Employee of the Month traveling plaque now includes Tpr. Klempe's name and will hang in the entryway of General Headquarters during March.

Tpr. Klempe thanked everyone for attending the ceremony and said, "It was a team effort. I didn't do it all by myself. Thank you to everyone who helped. I am just glad I could help those children."

*Congratulations, Tpr. Klempe!*

# Communications Operators Complete Academy

*Chief Training Oper. Roger D. Martin, Q/CommD*

A three-week Academy for newly hired communications operators took place January 28-February 15, 2019, at the Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy in Jefferson City. Students received training on the Computer Aided Dispatch system, which is used to document incoming requests for service, responder assignment, and actions or activity regarding these incidents. They completed the 40-hour APCO Public Safety Telecommunicator Course detailing the general skills and techniques required, information on radio and telephone operations, the importance of customer service, risk management, and other essential information. Each new operator completed several written and practical examinations.

Communications operators complete an intensive initial training and evaluation program. The Communications Academy is normally completed within the first three months of employment, and upon graduation, the

*l to r) Communications Operator Trainee Ellie Shirley, Troop A, was recognized as the Harry W. Duncan Honor Graduate at the end of the training. Director Corey Chaney, Q/CommD, and Major Tony Flannigan, Q/TSB, joined her in this photo.*

students return to their assigned troop to complete on-the-job training and evaluation.

## **Graduates included:**

*Ellie N. Shirley,  
Troop A*

*Eugenia G. Ortega, Troop C*

*Alexsa P. White, Troop E*

*Diane J. Gliser, Troop F*



During each Communications Operator Academy, one trainee is recognized as the "Harry W. Duncan Honor Graduate." Communications Operator Trainee Ellie N. Shirley, Troop A, achieved the highest overall score in academic and practical achievement for this Academy.

Congratulations to our graduates! Please welcome them to the Missouri Highway Patrol family.



*Congratulations to the following communications operator trainees who recently graduated from training: (front row, l to r) Alexsa White, Troop E, Eugenia Ortega, Troop C, Ellie Shirley, Troop A, and Diane Gliser, Troop F. Their instructors joined them in the picture: (back row, l to r) Chief Operator Roger Martin, Q/CommD, Chief Operator Cathy Baker, Troop I, and Communications Operator III Anjanette George, Troop G.*

# Troop B Zones Appreciated

Submitted by Troop B

Great River Honor Flights recognized the support given to their organization by presenting an award to Troop B Zones 8/9, which serve the citizens in Marion and Ralls counties.

Zone members have assisted with the motorcycle escort when the veterans return from Washington, D.C. for every mission hosted by Great River Honor Flights over the past 10 years. Pictured (l to r) are

Tpr. Dominick J. Walker, Tpr. Michael L. Bradley, Tpr. J. Patrick Johnson, Great River Honor Flights Board Member Vern Bastian, Sgt. Paul M. Behrens, and Sgt. Roland H. Bartels.



In celebration of 10 years of flights and the 50th mission overall, The Board of Directors of the Great River Honor Flight would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to

**MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL**

For your continued support given to this program and its mission of showing respect to veterans for their sacrifices and service to our country. Thanks to your efforts, over 1,600 local Armed Forces Veterans - spanning World War II, Korea and Vietnam have been a part of the Honor Flight experience.

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DAVID MOBLEY - SUSAN TILL - DIANE WEBER - CHRIS KREN - MARY ARP - MARTY STEGEMAN  
STEPHANIE COOPER - TOM KLINGAR

## MSHP Retirees Luncheon: You're Invited!

**All Retirees, Spouses, Surviving Spouses, & Guests Welcome!**

Please join us from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, August 16, 2019 at the First Baptist Church, 2 North Douglas, Lee's Summit, MO! (Lunch will be served at noon.) Take a little time for fun and fellowship! (Door prizes are appreciated.)

Our emcee this year is our own retired Captain Vince Ellis. Cost is \$13 per person. Make checks payable to Pat Spire and forward them to: Pat Spire, 3400 NW 51st Terrace, Blue Springs, MO 64015. Include your troop and years of service with the reservation, please!

For more information, contact one of your hosts:

**Pat Spire**  
3400 NW 51st Terrace  
Blue Springs, MO 64015  
816-229-0154  
pvspire@prodigy.net

**Fount Foushee**  
7910 E 159th St  
Belton, MO 64012  
816-331-1994  
wff7910@aol.com

**Virginia Fenton**  
720 Sunset Drive  
Independence, MO 64050  
816-461-6898

### Reservation Slip

Please return by August 1, 2019

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop: \_\_\_\_\_ Years of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail checks to: Pat Spire, 3400 NW 51st Terrace, Blue Springs, MO 64015

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# *Congratulations On Your Retirement!*

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**John D. Berry**  
DE III  
Troop D

*Retired January 1, 2019.  
Five years of dedicated service.*



**Monty D. Atkins**  
Corporal  
Q/GD

*Retired February 1, 2019.  
28 years, seven months  
of dedicated service.*



**Troy R. Blunt**  
Sergeant  
Q/DDCC

*Retired February 1, 2019.  
29 years of dedicated service.*



**Chichota R. Watson**  
DE III  
Troop A

*Retired February 1, 2019.  
23 years, 10 months  
of dedicated service.*



**Maggie M. Allen**  
Laboratory Evid. Tech. II  
Q/CLD

*Retired March 1, 2019.  
16 years, eight months  
of dedicated service.*



**Geoff L. Billings**  
Trooper  
Troop A

*Retired March 1, 2019.  
25 years, seven months  
of dedicated service.*



**Christopher A. Forck**  
Sergeant  
Q/GD

*Retired March 1, 2019.  
30 years, eight months  
of dedicated service.*



**Robin A. Fritzsche**  
DE III  
Troop C

*Retired March 1, 2019.  
21 years of dedicated service.*



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# *Congratulations On Your Retirement!*

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**Mark G. Inman**  
Captain  
Troop G

*Retired March 1, 2019.  
28 years, eight months  
of dedicated service.*



**George F. Knowles**  
Lieutenant  
Q/DDCC

*Retired March 1, 2019.  
33 years, six months  
of dedicated service.*



**Russ E. Sargent**  
Corporal  
Troop E

*Retired March 1, 2019.  
24 years of dedicated service.*

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## **CLD Supports Begin Again Backpack Program**

*By Criminalist III Abby J. Vivas, Q/CLD*

The Crime Laboratory is happy to announce that we have raised over \$1,000 in donations for The Central Missouri Foster Care and Adoption Association located in Jefferson City, MO. Each year the Crime Laboratory has fundraisers and donation opportunities to help support the local community. This year, we were happy to support CMFCAA's Begin Again Backpack Program for foster care children and young teens.

*Director Brian Hoey, Q/CLD, accepts  
his "Soak the Lab Director" prize.*



# Constitution Project: Making It Real

By Sgt. Shawn M. Griggs, Q/DDCC

“Rush traffic.”

Every officer knows this means somewhere an officer is in a serious situation and needs the radio open for communication. Instantly, every officer near a radio is listening, preparing to act in support of the trooper calling for radio silence. It’s real life and very personal.

It is this type of real life, personal scenario investigators with the Division of Drug and Crime Control wanted to create for the 2018 Constitution Project state finals November 7, 2018. The investigators set up a crime scene complete with manhunt involving an “officer shot during a traffic stop altercation.”

Students from three high schools and an all-star team acted as crime scene investigators, journalists, and

attorneys to determine what happened and adjudicate this fictitious case.

Patrol criminalists and investigators grade how students collect and process evidence, and interview supposed suspects. For some, this is their first experience with the Consti-

“Our purpose was to show young people how the Constitution affects our day-to-day lives and occupations, how it protects everyone, and to expose them to potential career paths,” said Captain John J. Hotz, Q/PIED.

tution Project. Other teams are quite proficient having competed before. However, all of them are growing in their understanding of the Constitution. This year, St. Louis City North Tech earned first place in crime scene

investigation. The School of the Osage (Lake Ozark, MO) was the overall winner of the 2018 Constitution Project.

The Patrol coordinates the competition with Texas County Associate Circuit Court Judge Douglas Gaston, but a lot of people behind the scenes make the competition possible. Many Patrol employees are involved and additional agencies provide support. My sincere thanks to all of them. The following components provided employees to assist with the state finals for the 2018 Constitution Project: Aircraft Division, Career Recruitment Division, Crime Laboratory Division, Drug & Crime Control Division, Public Information & Education Division, Troop B, Troop C, Troop D, Troop F, and Troop G. Both the role-players and the judges were outstanding!

*Sgt. Darrin R. Haslag, Q/DDCC, portrayed the initial responding investigator. He briefed each group of students when they arrived at the fake crime scene.*



*Evidence is processed and packaged during the 2018 Constitution Project.*



*Students spoke with Judge Doug Gaston to request a “warrant” as part of the competition. Criminalist III Abby Vivas, Q/CLD, and Tpr. Paul R. Wells, Q/DDCC, served as judges and listened to ensure the students abided by applicable laws and the 4th Amendment while processing the scene.*



*A student investigator marks evidence for photographing and collection.*

# Looking Back

## ... in the Patrol News

### 5 years ago

*March/April 2014* — This issue reported on the dedication of MSHP Cpl. Jay A. Parsley Memorial Highway, Troop I providing a basic water safety training course, employees being recognized for their work, and traffic stops yielding illegal drugs. One traffic stop involved a car hauler following too closely to a passenger car. Sgt. Matt K. Funderburk, Troop D, spoke with the driver and checked his license, registration, logbook, permits, and shipping papers. It was the last item that caught Sgt. Funderburk's attention. One bill was for a Honda Pilot and showed it weighing 4,500 pounds with a cost of \$1,100 to ship it. Sgt. Funderburk asked Sgt. Gary L. Braden, Troop D, to assist him and then asked the truck driver for permission to search the Honda. The troopers located 30 kilos of cocaine hidden in the Honda's bumper.

### 15 years ago

*March/April 2004* — Stories in this issue included one about a tornado hitting Stockton, MO. Three people were killed and six transported to hospitals as a result of this storm. The tornado turned businesses and homes into a debris field. Troopers joined local officers and worked long hours to help restore order. CALEA accredited the Patrol for the fourth time. The 81st Recruit Class graduation was highlighted in this issue.

### 25 years ago

*March 1994* — The front cover showed Tpr. Sam Lakey and K-9 Brando, and Tpr. Tim Peters with K-9 Fanto. The two new K-9s began service January 1, 1994. The Patrol held its first computer crime school in a newly opened computer laboratory at the Academy. A motor vehicle inspector was surprised to find a four-foot python in a van at an inspection station. The inspector had arrived to audit the inspection station when an inspector mechanic said he saw a leather-like object behind the ash tray. When the mechanic touched it, thinking it was a wallet, the object moved and the snake hunt began. The owner of the station helped track down and remove the snake. The van being inspected belonged to a local pet store. Apparently, the python got loose while being transported.

### 35 years ago

*April 1984* — Employees and retirees were invited to participate in the 13th Annual Patrol Golf Tournament. Trooper Larry Gregory observed a vehicle traveling 110 mph on Interstate 55 in Perry County. He initiated a pursuit which lasted for 15 minutes, when the driver finally pulled over. The woman told him she was going from St. Paul, MN, to Baton Rouge, LA, to attend her brother's funeral. The service was to take place that same day at 2 p.m. When Tpr. Gregory told her it would be impossible to make it to Baton Rouge in time for the funeral, she replied, "But, officer,

that's what the problem is. This speedometer shows the car will go 140 mph, but believe me, I could only get 110 out of it!"

### 40 years ago

*March 1979* — Corporal Ted Boehm, Troop F, was on the cover. The picture showed him investigating a traffic crash. According to the caption, troopers spent 84,227 hours investigating over 34,000 traffic crashes the previous year. The Patrol hosted two Executive Security Training schools at the Academy. The employees' insurance plan reached its first anniversary of operation.

### 45 year ago

*March 1974* — The cover photo was taken when Governor Christopher S. Bond signed the reorganization bill which realigned the Missouri's Executive Branch into 14 cabinet-like departments. It was this bill that placed the Missouri State Highway Patrol under the Department of Public Safety. A photo of four women included a caption announcing, "Troop C now has women driver examiners."

### 50 years ago

*April 1969* — A story from Troop G told the story of a school being burglarized. A soda machine was pried open and some change taken. The burglar then visited several classrooms and wrote on the blackboard in one of them. The superintendent examined the writing and narrowed it down to three students. Sgt. C.L. Reppell sent a picture of the writing and copies of recent themes by these students to the Patrol's "Technical Laboratory. The laboratory comparison results led to an arrest.



# The Call For Service — A Birthday Surprise

By Sgt. Gary D. Davidson, Troop A

Trooper Todd C. Baker, assigned to Troop D, Zone 9, Cedar and St. Clair counties, was contacted by his sister a few days before his nephew's seventh birthday. His nephew, who resides in the state of Kansas, was having a "trooper" themed birthday party that upcoming weekend. His sister thought she would check with him to see if he would be willing, and if it would be possible, to bring his uniform and maybe his patrol car to the party since he would be attending. Tpr. Baker informed his sister he could not bring his patrol car to Kansas, but would bring some of his Patrol gear with him to the party. After speaking with his sister, Tpr. Baker got an idea.

*Pictured (l to r) are Kansas Highway Patrol officers Lt. Mitch Mellick, Master Tpr. Lindsey Murphy, Tpr. Branden Leupold, Tpr. Dylan Parks, Tpr. Bill Lewis, Tpr. Zach Bachert, and Tpr. Landon Blackburn.*

Without his family's knowledge, he reached out to the Kansas Highway Patrol in his family's area to see if they would be willing to take the time out of their schedules to make a surprise visit to his nephew's birthday party. After contacting the Kansas Highway Patrol Troop A Headquarters, he was directed to speak with Lt. Mitch Mellick. Lt. Mellick would be the duty lieutenant the evening of the party, and Tpr. Baker was told Lt. Mellick would be the best person for this assignment. Tpr. Baker spoke with Lt. Mellick, and he indicated he was more than willing

to assist with the request. Tpr. Baker was under the assumption that Lt. Mellick and maybe another officer would make a surprise visit to the party; however, as you can tell from the photos, Lt. Mellick and the Kansas Highway Patrol went above and beyond that expectation. Let's just say Tpr. Baker's nephew, family, and guests were speechless when they answered a knock at their door!

I have had the fortune of knowing "Lt. Mitch" for many years now, and this is just the type of person he is, always giving and going above and beyond for others! This is an example all of us brothers and sisters in blue should always strive for. I would like to commend Lt. Mitch Mellick, and the rest of the officers that responded to this "call for service" that evening!



*The birthday boy and some of his friends were happy to have their picture taken with this group of Kansas state troopers.*

*Lt. Mitch Mellick helped make this young man's birthday a success.*

# ~ Thank You ~

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers during the passing of my father. All the cards, sympathy, and kindness shown to myself and my family were greatly appreciated. My family was touched and moved by the outpouring of support and the compassion shown.

Again, on behalf of myself and my family, thank you and God bless,  
*Sgt. Chris K. Shannon, Q/GD, & family*



Thank you to our Patrol family for all the messages and prayers we received during the time of Roy's passing. We were comforted and im-

pressed with the Patrol members and their presence at the visitation and funeral, and we received many favorable comments on their conduct.

*The family of retired Lt. Roy L. Herren*



Thank you for all the thoughts and prayers after the passing of my father-in-law. My family was truly touched by the cards, kind words, and prayers we received from the Patrol family.

*Sincerely,  
Fiscal Budgetary Analyst III Carla J. Siebeneck, Q/FFD, & family*

“What should happen when you make a mistake is this: You take your knocks, you learn your lessons, and then you move on.”

— Ronald Reagan

## Sympathy

*Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:*

Tpr. Belinda K. Huff (Q/GD) - grandmother

Cpl. Josh J. McDonald (I) - grandfather-in-law

Ret. Sgt. Dale Chenoweth - father  
Criminalist III Janet L. Davis (Q/CLD) - mother

Criminalist Sprv. Gary D. Davis (Q/CLD) - mother-in-law

Cpl. Kyle A. Green (F) - father  
Technician II Heidi J. Lewis (Q/PRD) - father

Cpl. Reid T. Fessler (B) - grandmother

Admin. Office Support Asst. Paula L. Fry (B) - father-in-law

Sgt. Chris K. Shannon (Q/GD) - father

Sgt. Adam V. Dillon (A) - grandfather

Tpr. Jared L. Dillon (A) - grandfather

Asst. Chief Oper. Jessica R. Dillon (A) - grandfather-in-law

Cpl. Gerry L. West (F) - father

Ret. CVO II Jim Bandy - wife

Ret. Sgt. David Mease - father

Ret. Lt. Don Frey - wife

Tpr. Robert J. North (C) - grandmother

Ret. Tpr. Edward Dingman - mother

Tpr. Andy A. Armstrong (F) - mother-in-law

Fiscal & Budg. Analyst III Carla J. Siebeneck (Q/FFD) - father-in-law

Ret. Sgt. Carl Watson - mother

Sgt. Greg T. Curnes (Q/FOB) - wife

Cpl. Mike P. McClure (D) - mother

Program Sprv. Shelly L. Stegeman (Q/PRD) - grandfather

Ret. CVO II Bob Eisenhouer - wife

Ret. CVE Insp. III Virginia Soetebier - husband

Sgt. John H. Lueckenhoff (D) - uncle

Tpr. Bradley J. Lueckenhoff (C) - great uncle

Comm. Oper. III Karen M. Olejniczak (C) - brother

Comm. Oper. II Abigail L. Howard (H) - grandmother

Bldg. & Grnd. Maint. Sprv. Danny L. Wyatt (B) - mother-in-law

Ret. CVO II Rodger O. Thompson - son-in-law

# Deaths

## Dixie V. McHenry



Dixie “Vanessa” McHenry, 60, of Kansas City, MO, died January 6, 2019, after a long battle with ovarian cancer. Vanessa was born on February 3, 1958, in Kansas City, to Darrell and Dolores Davis. Vanessa received her General Education Development certificate in 1977. She married William McHenry in 2000.

Vanessa worked for the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a telecommunicator since 2001. Her hobbies included reading, working puzzles, playing games on her Kindle, latch hook, and word search games. She enjoyed traveling with her husband and she also enjoyed spending time with her dogs, Benny and Milo.

Vanessa is survived by her devoted husband, William; and her daughter, Valerie Maynard, of Kansas City; her parents, Darrell and Dolores Davis, of Belton, MO; and her siblings, Darrell “Bruce” Davis, of Kansas City, Denise Davis, of Kansas City, and Dawn Foy, of Grandview, MO.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be made to the Sarah Cannon Fund at the American Cancer Society (<https://sarahcannon.com/about/sarah-cannon-fund.dot>) as they helped Vanessa throughout her battle with cancer.

The visitation and memorial service took place at Heartland Cremation and Burial Society in Raytown, MO.

The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the McHenry family.

## Linda J. White



The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the family of Linda J. White, who died February 3, 2019. Linda served as a commercial vehicle officer from 1983 until she retired in 2009 as a commercial vehicle officer supervisor in the Troop D area.

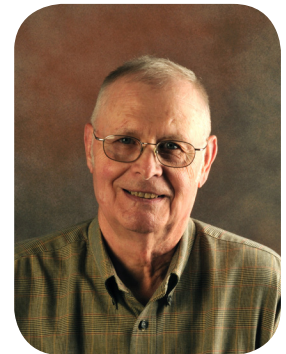
## James R. Temmen



James R. Temmen, 83, died peacefully Friday, February 22, 2019, surrounded in love by his wife, Dorothy, and his family. He graduated from Fatima High School in Westphalia, MO, in 1953. Jim worked as a carpenter and

served in the Missouri National Guard before joining the Patrol as a member of the 25th Recruit Class in 1962. Jim retired as a sergeant after 30 years of dedicated service. In addition to his wife, he is survived by three siblings, and many other family members. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Temmen family.

## Thomas W. Hoffmann



Thomas Walter “Sarge” Hoffmann died Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at SSM Health St. Mary’s Hospital–Audrain, with his wife and daughters by his side. Tom served in the United States Air Force from 1956 to 1960. After being discharged in 1960, he worked briefly for the Missouri Department of Revenue. He joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol in 1961, as a member of the 24th Recruit Class. He retired as a sergeant after nearly 33 years of dedicated service in September 1994. Tom is survived by his wife, Judith, two daughters, five grandchildren, and many other family members. For more information about Tom’s life, visit the Arnold Funeral Home website at [www.arnoldfh.com](http://www.arnoldfh.com). The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Hoffmann family.

Recruiting: 1-800-796-7000 • Email: [mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov](mailto:mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov) • Home Page: <http://www.mshp.dps.mo.gov>  [www.facebook.com/motrooper](http://www.facebook.com/motrooper)  
 @MSHPTrooperGHQ @MSHPTrooperA @MSHPTrooperB @MSHPTrooperC @MSHPTrooperD @MSHPTrooperE @MSHPTrooperF  
@MSHPTrooperG @MSHPTrooperH @MSHPTrooperI @MSHPTrooperDDCC @MSHPColonel @MSHPRecruiting

# *Hi, Neighbor!*

## MSHP, KSP TALK SHOP

*By Director Cathy F. Brown, Q/FFD*

In an effort to continue collaborative fleet discussions between the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Kansas State Patrol, Assistant Director Greg J. Rehagen, Garage Superintendent Brad W. Adams, and I visited with the KSP on February 13, in Topeka, KS. Representatives of the KSP got a close look at our radio equipment/console installation in our Dodge Charger, both within the vehicle and in the trunk, as KSP is working to make modifications to their equipment and its installation. We toured their garage facility, including their large, enclosed storage facility for vehicles, which was impressive. Their operation includes between 700-800 fleet vehicles. The two operations are similar in terms of types of pursuit vehicles used and when vehicles are traded. However, the MSHP has approximately twice

the number of vehicles than that of the KSP. This type of collaboration highlights the ongoing efforts of the Fleet

& Facilities Division to reflect on and improve efficiencies and best practices within our overall fleet program.



*(l to r) Asst. Dir. Greg Rehagen, Q/FFD, Capt. Brian Basore, who oversees the KSP fleet operation, Director Cathy Brown, Q/FFD, and Garage Supt. Brad Adams, Q/FFD, talked 'shop' during a recent visit to share best practices.*