

Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association

Fall 2022 Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

We were able to have an in-person Alumni/Retiree Day at the Academy on September 9, 2022. This was our first one in three years. The day started with the check-in and socialization period. Thank you, Lucy Harvey, for assisting me with greeting members as they arrived. Each member got a souvenir pen which read "Memorial Dedication – Alumni Association – September 9, 2022" and a ticket for door prizes that were to be given out later. It was nice to see everyone "catching up" and using the time to shop our merchandise.

The Academy hosted a dedication ceremony for our Fallen Heroes memorial which we all attended. Superintendent Carnahan gave the opening remarks followed by three guest speakers. The speakers were DOT Secretary Craig Thompson, Attorney General Josh Kaul, and Sergeant Glen Jones representing the Wisconsin Troopers Benevolent Foundation. The ceremony was very moving with family members or the State Patrol reading the synopsis of each trooper's end of watch. There was a moment of silence, then retired Sergeant Kevin Lynch played Amazing Grace on his bagpipe.

Our meeting started after lunch. The Honor Guard posted the colors. The Division Update was given by Superintendent Tim Carnahan and Colonel Dave Fish. I was amazed at the technology advancements which have been made since I retired in 2013. I was thinking about how much more troopers and inspectors have to learn before they graduate from the Academy. I just needed a statute book, bond book, map, a good ink pen, and somewhat readable penmanship.

Elections for president and secretary were held, both were uncontested, therefore I remain as president and Kim Hurley remains as secretary. The northwest regional representatives Keith Young and Ruth Tiry and the southwest regional representative David Collins and Paul Matl were appointed by me. Thank you and welcome aboard Paul.

Door prizes were key chains, shirts, three framed 75th anniversary posters, coins, coffee mugs, and travel tumblers. We had two Grand prizes this year, a homemade quilt with some patches of other State Patrols on it, which was donated by Karin Disher (Ron Disher's widow). The other grand prize was the book "Worn with Pride" with \$50 bill in it.

Thank you to the Academy, Captain Hefti, Sergeant Platt, the kitchen staff, the Fort McCoy police department, and anyone else who made the day a success.

Alumni/Retiree Day will be September 8th, 2023.

Mark your calendars and I hope to see you there,

Mary

8-16-22 WSPAA Board Meeting WI State Patrol Academy

In attendance; Linda Woldt, Keith Young, Ray Sondalski, Kim Hurley, Mary Sander, Dave Collins, and Ruth Tiry.

Excused; Lyle Sconzert, Joseph Jakubicz and Phil Wenzel.

Meeting called to order at 10:15 am. The meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to accept the agenda was made by Linda and a second by Keith.

Financial Report – Regular fund has \$9,912.08 and the scholarship fund has \$5,123.63. The 18 month cd has \$2,002.59 and the 24 month cd has \$5,123.63.

Motion to accept the financial report was made by Ray and a second by Ruth.

Secretary Report – looking for articles for the next newsletter. The scholarship winners and their articles should be in the next newsletter.

Membership Report – Mary handed out the newly revised membership lists.

Prior to the meeting Joseph proposed to Mary that the membership application be revised. We would remove current DSP assignment and replace it with Post/District retired from. Discussion about this change and then all agreed to make the change.

After the meeting Kim contacted Diane King to make the change on the form. The form has been revised and the new form is on the WSPAA website.

Regional Reports – SWR-nothing to report. Central Region-Ray reported that Larry Georges wife passed away. Ray also stated that Dave Forsythe might be interested in being a regional representative. Ray will follow up with him. Ray said the Merrill law enforcement breakfast had no WSP personnel other than Ray. NWR-nothing to report. NER-Lyle's wife is not doing well.

Merchandise Report – Ruth reported only a few sales except for the key chains. We have ordered more key chains. Ruth has been playing around with postage and packages so that we have a better idea of costs. Postage rates are going up in the near future. Ruth reports we have plenty of inventory for retiree day.

Motion by Keith and second by Ray to accept the reports.

Retiree Day Report – Sgt. Platt has arranged to have Gate 15 open for us on retiree day. There will be digital signs that will say WSPAA to use Gate 15. Gate 15 will open up at 8 AM and remain open until 5 pm. If people arrive prior to 8 AM they will have to use the Main Gate.

There will also be lots of dignitaries, media, honor guard and family members of the fallen Troopers also arriving that morning.

There will be a limited amount of chairs available in the quad area for the dedication of the new memorial. Standing room will be on the grass near the old library. Attendees may opt to use the old library and remain indoors. Should it rain the dedication ceremony will be moved to the multi-purpose room and then live streamed to some of the classrooms. Sgt. Platt stated that people may bring lawn chairs to sit in during the dedication ceremony if they want. The time frame for the dedication ceremony is 10:30 am to 11:30 am. However VIP's may be running late. There will be a media photographer for the dedication ceremony.

Sgt. Platt said the Academy will provide cookies and coffee for retiree attendees during our meeting. We will use the media photographer to take our alumni day group pictures.

Mary will send out a list of who has signed up for retiree day. Discussion on what door prizes we would have and the quantity of door prizes we will have. Winners must be present to claim their prize. Mary provided a draft of the agenda for alumni day.

Assignments for the tables at sign in, membership and merchandise were delegated.

Roundtable –Ruth thinks we have to order 250 pens of the 2022 retiree day pens we discussed handing out to all attendees. Everyone else had nothing to add.

Next Meeting – November 15th 10 am at WSPA.

Motion to adjourn made by Linda and second by Ruth.

Scholarship Winner



WSPAA NE Region representative Joseph Jakubicz and Sgt. Henry Glick of Fond du Lac Post present 2022 scholarship winner Gracie Reese. Gracie is the one of our 2 winners in 2022.

She is the daughter of Trooper James Reese. Below is an article that Gracie wrote for us.

Greetings from Marian University (Part II)

Hello to all! I wanted to send out a huge thank you, once again, to the Wisconsin State Patrol Alumni Association and to the families of Bruce Bishop and William Harvey for choosing me once again this year as a recipient for this amazing scholarship opportunity which helps students like me be able to better afford college. I truly am humbled by your selection of me and your generosity. It is opportunities like this that drive me to continue to strive to do the best that I can to best represent both myself and the people relying on me to succeed in my career and life goals.

I will be beginning my second year at Marian University in Fond du Lac, WI. I have tweaked things slightly and have adjusted my major and studies of emphasis. I am now majoring in criminal justice, with a double-minor in forensic science and crime scene investigation. This better aligns with my career goals and academic plan for focusing on being a forensic crime scene investigator working out in the field as opposed to in a laboratory type environment. I am very excited to begin to take classes that put an emphasis on my specific interests in law enforcement and crime scene analysis.

I worked very hard last year to maintain a healthy school/life balance. I was rewarded in many ways by being blessed with an amazing group of friends and with earning the honor of making the University's Dean's List last semester. As I begin to pack-up and get ready to move back to campus in a couple of weeks, I promise that I will continue to work hard towards succeeding in my goals that I have set for myself and to live up to the expectations of those that have put their faith and confidence in me.

With all of the craziness that is currently happening in this world, I will continue to pray for all of the members of the Wisconsin State Patrol, as well as all of the men and women of our law enforcement family that continue to make the decision to put the gun and badge on every day in order to make sure that we are all safe and protected.

Thank you all, again, so very much!

Gracie Reese

Recent Scholarship donors

Beth & Randall Brining in honor of Bill Plendl. Ruth Tiry, Bob Gohre, Dave Collins, Ken Bundick, Geoff Downey, and Wayne Misener.

2022 Alumni Day photo's



Retired PCO Jim Lamphier and retired Trooper Phil Wenzel catch up.



Retired Trooper's Dick Sacia & Linda Woldt



Non-sworn: John Gifford, Mary Albedyll, Karen Knox, Donna McDonough & Xoung Toung



Patch quilt donated by Ron Disher's widow-Karin



Richard Lindbeck with John and Fran Luther



Superintendent Tim Carnahan



Recruit classes 1-20

It was great to see everyone that attended retiree day. A big thank you to the Academy staff! And to the Fort McCoy Police who opened up gate 15 for us.

Do not forget to mark your calendars for the 2023 Retiree Day – 9-8-23.

Also, if you have not already renewed your membership for 2023 and beyond please do so now. Please go recruit some new members for our alumni association.

Coming in the next newsletter we will hear from our other scholarship winner.

Kim Hurley

WSPAA Secretary

