

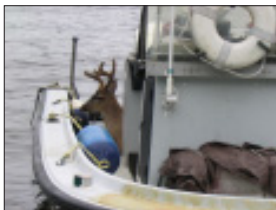
# The DPS Quarterly

A Department of Public Safety publication bringing professionalism and humanity together.

Fall 2004

## Inside Stories

A Southeast Rescue..... 14



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(From left) Deputy Commissioner Ted Bachman, Commissioner Bill Tandeske, Lt. Dan Lowden, Major Joe Masters, and Capt. Al Storey observed as Governor Murkowski signed new public safety legislation.

## Governor Frank Murkowski Signed New Public Safety Related Legislation

During a bill signing ceremony June 29, 2004, **Governor Frank Murkowski** signed several new pieces of legislation into law that affect various aspects of public safety.

**HB 334—Unlawful Exploitation of Minor:** makes unlawful exploitation of a minor a class A felony if the person has been previously convicted of unlawful exploitation of a minor. This bill also makes distribution of child pornography a class A felony if the person has been previously convicted of distribution of child pornography.

**HB 342—Increase DWI Penalties:** provides that the court may order as a condition of probation or as part of a sentence, that a defendant convicted of an alcohol related offense, may not operate a vehicle unless the vehicle is equipped with an ignition interlock device. This leg-

islation requires that a person convicted of DUI with a BAC of 0.16 but less than 0.24, use an ignition interlock device for a minimum of six months after the person regains the privilege, including any limited privilege to operate a motor vehicle. It further requires a person convicted of DUI with a BAC of 0.24 or more to use an ignition interlock device for a minimum of one year after the person regains the privilege, including any limited privilege, to operate a motor vehicle. The legislation also contains provisions for granting limited license privileges under certain circumstances for offenders.

**HB 381—Child Endangerment Driving Offense:** adds another element to AS 11.51.100, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, by making it illegal to transport a child in a motor vehicle, aircraft, or water- (Governor, continued on page 2)

## Governor

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craft while operating the vehicle, aircraft, or watercraft under the influence of an intoxicant. The penalty for violation is a class C felony.

**HB 428—Civil Penalties Minors and Alcohol:** creates civil liability for those who provide alcohol to those under the age of 21.

**HB 490—Employment Security Act Amendments:** relates to the release of employment security records and to select records pertaining to workers' compensation plus other provisions of the Alaska Employment Security Act.

**HB 534—Office of Victims Rights:** makes the Office of Victims Rights a permanent part of the State government.

**SB 170—Criminal Law/Sentencing/Probation/Parole:** a summary of this crime legislation action includes a) to allow communities to adopt lower limits of alcohol possession and importation as part of the local option system; closes a local option loophole by providing that the least restrictive local option applies in overlapping areas; b) increases the penalty to a class C felony for furnishing alcohol to minors in local option areas, and for sending large amounts of alcohol to local option areas; allows forfeiture of

cash seized in bootlegging offenses; mandates forfeiture of certain vehicles, watercraft, and aircraft used in bootlegging, unless the vehicle is the sole means of transportation of a family in rural Alaska; allows the State to share the proceeds from forfeited property with municipal law enforcement agencies that participate in the arrest or conviction of a bootlegger; c) increases the penalty to a class C felony for criminally negligent offenses that cause serious physical injury with a dangerous instrument, which includes a motor vehicle; d) increases penalty for sexual abuse of young children by teenagers from a class A misdemeanor to a class C felony; e) makes it a class A or class B misdemeanor, depending on the crime with which the person releases is charged, for a court-appointed custodian to knowingly fail to report that the defendant released to his custody has violated court-imposed conditions; f) disallows self-defense if the State proves a deadly weapon was possessed to further the felony criminal objectives of a gang, or to buy or sell felony amounts of illegal drugs; g) requires the court to issue written or oral findings addressing the need to place a person charged with a crime in the custody of a third-party custodian as a

condition of the defendant's release; h) adopts a uniform procedure to determine if a witness has a valid Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination; i) disallows the "big gulp" defense in drunk driving cases; j) provides that once a person has been convicted of a felony drunk driving or felony refusal to submit to a chemical test, a subsequent drunk driving or refusal offense will also be a felony if it occurs within 20 years of a previous felony conviction; k) allows for greater disclosure to the public by state or municipal agency of information about juvenile offenders, if necessary to protect the safety of the public; and l) increases the duration of certain provisions of domestic violence protective orders from six months to one year.

**SB 224—Lower DWI For Minors:** amends current statutes concerning "Minor Operating a Vehicle After consuming" alcohol (MOVAC) offense, and the related offenses of refusal to provide a breath sample and driving within 24 hours after having been cited for MOVAC. Under the new guidelines, the first offense for each of the crimes will be a mandatory \$500 fine. The second offense is \$1000. The third and subsequent offenses will be \$1500. Community work service is also required. ■

## Division of Alaska State Troopers

### Promotion Announced

**Colonel Julia Grimes** announced the following promotions, presented alphabetically:

**Steve Arlow:**

- The promotion of **Sgt. Steve Arlow**, ABWE Bethel Post, to Lieutenant, Deputy Commander of the Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement, Anchorage HQ, was effective September 16, 2004.

Sgt. Arlow has over 19 years of law enforcement experience beginning his career as a DPS Seasonal Fish & Wildlife Enforcement Officer in June 1985. In 1989, he became a Permanent FWEO in Soldotna where he remained until appointed to State Trooper Recruit in January 1991. He

attended Recruit Class #41 and his first duty assignment was Soldotna Post for FTO with the Division of Fish & Wildlife Protection. He then transferred to Juneau Post July 1991. In 1994, Sgt. Arlow became the Master of the 65-foot *P/V Enforcer* based out of Juneau. Sgt. Arlow earned his 100-ton Vessel License.

Sgt. Arlow was promoted to Sergeant and transferred to Ketchikan Post June 1997, as the Southern Southeast Post Supervisor. After three years in Ketchikan, he transferred to the Cordova Post as Post Supervisor and then in December 2002, he transferred to Bethel Post. Sgt. Arlow is a current State Pilot for the Department.

Throughout his various assignments, Sgt. Arlow has been instrumental in the development and implementation of a broad range of enforcement plans which resulted in the identification and prosecution of numerous violators.

Throughout his career, Sgt. Arlow has consistently demonstrated that he can provide outstanding leadership to the Troopers under his command, as well as engage in proactive police work with tangible results. In his new assignment, he will provide valuable support to the ABWE Commander and mentorship to the Troopers for which he is responsible.

(Promotions, continued on page 3)

## Promotions, continued from page 2

### **Burke Barrick:**

- The promotion of **Sgt. Burke Barrick**, Alaska State Troopers, Nome Post Supervisor, to Lieutenant, Deputy Commander, D Detachment, Fairbanks, was effective September 16, 2004.

Sgt. Barrick is a 13-year veteran with the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska State Troopers. He graduated the Academy in September 1990 with Recruit Class #41. His first assignment was D Detachment, Fairbanks Post where on completion of the FTO program, he worked assignments in Fairbanks Patrol, Burglary Suppression, as a Field Training Officer, GIU, and was a member of the Tactical Dive Unit.

In April of 1994, Sgt. Barrick transferred to Galena Post where, as part of his duties, he was responsible for the villages of Huslia, Ruby, Koyukuk, and others.

In 1997, Sgt. Barrick was promoted to Corporal and assigned to the Department's Training Academy as an instructor. He is a Certified Instructor in Domestic Violence Investigations, Use of Force, Defensive Tactics, Emergency Vehicle Operations, and Health and Fitness. Sgt. Barrick holds an Advanced Police Certificate from APSC.

In 2000, Sgt. Barrick was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to the Nome Post as Post Supervisor where he is responsible for law enforcement activities in 15 Norton Sound communities and supervises six troopers and three civilian employees.

In his new assignment, Sgt. Barrick will be the supervisor for the Fairbanks Patrol Unit, Judicial Services and share Detachment Deputy Commander duties with the Rural Unit Lieutenant.

Sgt. Barrick is a graduate of Brigham Young University and an honor graduate from the Southern Police Institute. Sgt. Barrick has consistently performed in an outstanding manner both as a Trooper and Sergeant and this demonstrated commitment to AST will no doubt continue as he assumes his leadership role in Fairbanks. He brings professionalism and a standard of excellence with him, and he will be an outstanding role model for those he commands.

### **Randy Hahn:**

- The promotion of **Lt. Randal Hahn** to Captain was effective June 1, 2004. He will command the Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement (ABWE).

Capt. Hahn began his career with the Department of Public in January 1991, when he attended the 41st State Trooper Recruit class.

He has served in Palmer, Big Lake, and Sitka. His experience includes Patrol, GIU, and an assignment to a Specialized Traffic Enforcement Team (STEP). He also served as a Police Instructor, FTO, Shift OIC, SERT Team member, and K-9 handler/instructor.

In March 1999, Hahn was promoted to Sergeant and served as Deputy Commander of the DPS Training Academy. In October 2001, he was promoted to Lieutenant, Deputy Commander of B Detachment and Acting Detachment Commander in his Captain's absence.

In addition to supervisory and management duties, he has taken a leadership role as Detachment FTEP Coordinator, Domestic Violence Coordinator, Vehicle Coordinator, Palmer and Big Lake Patrol Unit Supervisor, Burglary Suppression Unit Supervisor, Judicial Services Support Supervisor, South Central SERT Team Leader, and as Statewide Canine Program Coordinator.

Capt. Hahn's new assignment as the ABWE Commander includes the supervision of 6 Lieutenants located in Juneau (Southeastern Region), Palmer (Mat-Su Region), Soldotna (Kenai Prince William Sound Region), Anchorage (Western Region), Kodiak (Southwestern Region), and Fairbanks (Northern Region). His duties will be to ensure the missions of the Department, the Division of Alaska State Troopers, and of ABWE are accomplished effectively.

As the Deputy Commander of B Detachment, Capt. Hahn has proven his ability to handle the demands of a dynamic and ever changing law enforcement mission. He will certainly provide the same effective leadership and supervision as the Commander of the Statewide Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement with its approximately 82 State Troopers and 52 ci-

vilian employees working in many diverse geographic regions. Capt. Hahn has expressed his pledge to meet the challenges of his new position with energy and commitment.

### **Kurt Ludwig**

- The promotion of **Lt. Kurt Ludwig** to Captain was effective June 1, 2004. Capt. Ludwig will command A Detachment.

Capt. Ludwig began his career with the Alaska State Troopers on June 4, 1990. After graduation from ALET #40, he transferred to Palmer Patrol, then to Kodiak. In September 1997, he was promoted to Sergeant and transferred to A Detachment in Ketchikan as the Post Supervisor. In April 2001, Sgt. Ludwig was promoted to First Sergeant and in August 2002, to Lieutenant, Deputy Detachment Commander and Enforcement Unit Supervisor of A Detachment. Capt. Ludwig is also an experienced FTO and K-9 handler / instructor.

Capt. Ludwig will be the Detachment Commander for A Detachment, covering Southeast Alaska. In his new position he will supervise the day-to-day operations of the Detachment consisting of Ketchikan, Klawock, Juneau, and Haines Posts.

Capt. Ludwig has many years of experience managing the Division's law enforcement presence in Southeast Alaska. He has established strong working relationships with the many communities we serve, and will undoubtedly continue his commitment to excellent service and response to the public.

### **Craig Macdonald:**

- The promotion of **Sgt. Craig Macdonald**, E Detachment, Soldotna Post to Lieutenant, Director's Staff effective September 16, 2004.

Sgt. Macdonald began his career April 26, 1982. He was stationed in Fairbanks Patrol at the completion of the Academy. He also was assigned to the Burglary Investigations Unit, Judicial Services, Warrants and SERT during his four years with D Detachment.

He transferred to Bethel Post in June 1986, where he worked with the Homicide and Sexual Assault Investigation Unit, VPSO Oversight and Training, Search and

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## Promotions, continued from page 3

Rescue, and Drug & Alcohol Investigations.

Sgt. Macdonald then transferred to Ketchikan Post where he worked Patrol, Tactical Dive Unit, and as Search and Rescue Coordinator from February 1989, to July 1993. August 1993, he transferred to Cooper Landing Post and was in charge of the Cooper Landing patrol area and handled all SARs for the area.

In November 1999, Sgt. Macdonald transferred to Soldotna Post Patrol and was the Field Training Officer for E Detachment and relief O.I.C. In May 2001, he was promoted to Sergeant for E Detachment, Soldotna Post and was assigned as the Patrol Shift Supervisor and was responsible for coordinating all Detachment SAR operations.

In his new assignment he will be assigned to the Director's Staff at AST Headquarters. One of his primary responsibilities will be to manage the Department's Search and Rescue Program. Sgt. Macdonald has many years of experience in dealing with matters related to Search and Rescue. He is currently the Search and Rescue coordinator for E Detachment. He is also an Emergency Medical Technician III and a Firefighter I.

During his 22-year career, Sgt. Macdonald has been around the state in many different assignments, and has acquired an understanding of the Division's diverse operations. His well-rounded background provides a solid base for his new assignment and will assist him in the challenge of supporting all field operations, as well as managing the Search and Rescue Program.

### **Lee Oly:**

- The promotion of **Sgt. Lee Oly** to Lieutenant for the DPS Training Academy, was effective June 1, 2004.

Lt. Oly began his law enforcement career attending Recruit Class #42 in 1993. He has served in Anchorage Post and Nenana Post, and in 1998, was promoted to Sergeant and supervised Girdwood Post. He transferred to the Academy as the Deputy Commander, where he has served the past 3 years.

Lt. Oly served 9 years with the U.S. Navy and has earned an Associates De-

gree in Science from George Washington University, Washington D.C., a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from National University in San Diego, California, and a Masters Degree in Career and Technology Education from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.

While serving as the Deputy Academy Commander, Lt. Oly has distinguished himself as a dedicated professional committed to keeping DPS in a position of statewide leadership by providing high quality training to all law enforcement agencies in Alaska.

He strives to instill the core values of our agency into the hearts and minds of all recruits; Loyalty, Integrity, Courage, Professionalism, Sense of Urgency, Attention to Detail, and Dedication to Public Service. It is this set of values that sets us apart from other agencies.

As Academy Commander, Lt. Oly is responsible for the administration and supervision of the DPS Training Academy. He will be responsible for providing leadership in training on a statewide level as well as to his Academy Staff of 1 Sergeant, 5 Corporals, 4 civilian personnel, and up to as many as 60 personnel during academy classes.

Lt. Oly is committed to, and excels at building new Troopers and shaping our Division's leaders for the future.

### **Rick Roberts:**

- The promotion of **Corporal Rick Robert** to Sergeant was effective August 16, 2004.

Sgt. Roberts began his law enforcement career as an ABWE Aide with the ABWE Bethel Post in 1997. He was promoted to State Trooper Recruit in 1998, and after completion of the Academy he was assigned to D Detachment, Fairbanks Patrol. Within 10 months, he was assigned Shift OIC and became an FTO within 16 months. At 18 months, he became an Investigator with Fairbanks ABI, investigating Sexual Assaults, Sexual Abuse of Minors and Death Investigations.

In 2000, Sgt. Roberts transferred to E Detachment, Homer Post, and spent two years on the Peninsula before he was pro-

moted to Corporal and assigned to the Training Academy Staff as an Instructor. In addition to his many duties as a trainer and squad leader, he also served as OIC.

Sgt. Roberts' new assignment at the Academy will be as Deputy Commander, which entails the direct supervision of 5 commissioned Corporals (Instructor/Trainers). He will ensure that the quality of instruction and lesson plan preparations are up to the high standards of the Academy. He will be responsible for the successful presentation of both in-house instruction and field presentations. Sgt. Roberts will assist the Academy Commander with course scheduling of all training at the Academy such as: ALET and VPSO and DPS Specific Recruit training and DPS In-Service training. Sgt. Roberts will also be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Academy, overseeing the activities of the Recruits. Finally, he will assist the Academy Commander in the development, implementation and evaluation of all Academy curriculum.

"Our DPS Training Academy is a critical part of our Division and is fundamental to our overall mission. We have great confidence Sgt. Roberts will provide his staff leadership and guidance with regard to their responsibilities for developing capable, professional Trooper Recruits."

### **Al Storey:**

- The promotion of **Lt. Allen Storey** to Captain was effective June 1, 2004. Capt. Storey will supervise Division Operations for the Director's Office.

Capt. Storey has over 24 years of law enforcement experience with the Division of Alaska State Troopers and brings with him 32 years of military experience with the Air Force and Alaska Air National Guard.

Lt. Storey was promoted to Corporal in 1989, and then to Palmer Patrol Sergeant in 1992. In 1995, he transferred from the Patrol Unit to Mat-Su Drug Team, to WAANT in 1997, and then promoted to Lieutenant and Commander of the State-wide Drug Enforcement in 2000.

In July 2003, Lt. Storey transferred to the Director's Office, where he took on the

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Division's Legislature Liaison responsibilities. He did an outstanding job, working closely with the Commissioner's Office to represent our DPS to the Legislature. He also oversaw the Field Training and Evaluation Program and several high priority special projects, such as the re-writing of the traffic bail schedule.

In Capt. Storey's position on the Director's Staff, he will supervise the Division Operations and 6 Lieutenants; which includes the staff of Judicial Services, Recruitment, the DUI Forfeiture Program, the Legislature Liaison position, and all special projects assigned out of the Director's Office that support the field.

Capt. Storey is taking on a position which is fast paced and intense, and critical to the support of our Division field operations. He has expressed his commitment to teaming up with the Detachment and Bureau Commanders and all members of the Division to keep us moving in a positive direction. ■

## Judicial Services News

The months are roaring by this summer though none of us has any complaints here with all of this great summer weather.

We have been busy though with lots of extraditions with **Henry Kozloff** and appreciate all the help from all of the detachments with personnel to accomplish these moves.

We have been moving a lot of prisoners and as usual our numbers are up from last year as expected. Since all the judges take off during the summer, as all of us do, we are not looking forward to the fall season of mass trials to catch up on the ones not done this summer while they were gone.

We have had a productive summer in spite of us losing **Butch Wilkins** back to Soldotna from where he came. Everyone here will miss him but wish him best of luck in returning to his roots. We had a small gathering for him here at JS, and of course, he could not go without one of the famous memorial plaques from JS. Good Luck to you Butch.

We hired a new CSO over the summer who is currently in training. We welcomed



**Lt. Duke Ballard (right) presented CSO Butch Wilkins with his memorial plaque from Judicial Services.**

**Julie-Dee Sharkey** from dispatch and are glad to have her on board with us. Of course, she has thoroughly enjoyed being, beaten, thrown, sprayed and nearly electrocuted but so far she has survived it all with a smile.

**CSO Janelle O'Bryant** took a trip to Fairbanks and came back as **Janelle O'Bryant-Moore**. Must be something in

the water up there. We wish the best of luck to her and **Josh**.

We are in hopes of obtaining a couple more CSOs over the next couple of months to bring us back up to full strength and enable us to at least try to stay ahead of the game. They just keep hiring more judges and more specialty courts that eat up our time daily. ■

## Salute To Those In The Field

A salute and thanks from the Division and the Office of the Commissioner, to those who continue to provide outstanding public safety service, and strive to maintain a proud and professional image.

**Trp. Tony Wegrzyn**, Palmer Post, received a memo of appreciation for his energetic and enthusiastic attitude with a high degree of self-initiated activity. Also, while searching for a sex offender who

had failed to register, Wegrzyn noticed an odor of marijuana at a residence. Following procedure, he ultimately located a 60-plus grow operation, and relayed the information to the drug unit. The rapport he developed with the suspect resulted in obtaining additional information on other grow operations in the area.

**Trp. Howard Peterson**, Palmer Post, received a memo of appreciation for his

diligence, ingenuity, and perseverance in locating and arresting a subject on a \$50,000 warrant. Peterson responded to a disturbance call and observed the subject's brother at the location. The brother denied knowledge of the subject's location. Several hours later, Peterson returned to the residence, observed two individuals inside, and ultimately made a successful arrest of the wanted man. ■

## Public Safety Academy Graduation June 2004

BY GREG WILKINSON, PIO

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) Academy in Sitka held a graduation ceremony for the 31st ALET (Alaska Law Enforcement Training) class on June 3, 2004, in Sitka. DPS **Commissioner Bill Tandeske**, Director of the Alaska State Troopers **Colonel Julia Grimes**, and Deputy Director of the Alaska State Troopers **Major Joe Masters**, attended the graduation. U.S. Attorney **Timothy Burgess** was the keynote speaker.

Thirty graduates completed 14 weeks of rigorous physical training and challenging academics to graduate. Recruits with

the Alaska State Troopers will continue their training for an additional three weeks; covering information which is specific to the Troopers. They will then be assigned to field training in Fairbanks, Soldotna, or Palmer.

In addition to training recruits for the DPS, the Academy also trains municipal police officers from around the State, Village Public Safety Officers, students from the University of Alaska law enforcement program, Civil Air Patrol Cadets, State Fire Marshals, Military Security, Airport Police, and others.

The Alaska State Trooper graduates and their hometown were: **Toma Caldarea**, Fairbanks, Alaska; **Phillip Duce**, Anchorage, Alaska; **John Groover**, Lizton, Indiana; **Joshua Heinbaugh**, Glennallen, Alaska; **Malik Jones**, Fairbanks, Alaska; **Mitchell Lewis**, Galena, Alaska; **Vanessa Meade**, Homer, Alaska; **Judith Parris**, Anchorage, Alaska; **Michael Potter**, Fairbanks, Alaska; **Kimberly Sledgister**, Anchorage, Alaska; **Jonnathon Stroebele**, Fairbanks, Alaska; **Allan Weber**, Fairbanks, Alaska; and **Dean Whisler**, Palmer, Alaska. ■

## Alaska Bureau of Investigation

COMPILED BY JENNIFER M. GRIGGS

Another summer has sped by and unfortunately fall is approaching fast. However, we have all enjoyed a beautiful and eventful summer. I don't know if any of you have heard the old wives tale about the height of the fireweed predicting the depth of the winter snows to come, but I've seen some TALL fireweed. It is as tall as I am! Now I will admit, for a person – I'm short, but for fireweed – five foot four inches is TALL! I really hope that's not what we are in for this winter!

We lost **Lt. Nils Monsen** to C Detachment. A barbecue was held in his honor to wish him well. **Capt. Matt Leveque** presented his ABI service plaque. Nils will be missed. Our loss is most certainly their gain. **Lt. John Papasadora** has joined us after the closing of EOC. We are glad to have him here. He hit the ground running here and hasn't stopped yet.

In the Mat-Su unit, **Inv. Derek DeGraaf** replaced **Inv. Scott Briggs** in the training slot. Briggs moved sideways into one of the property crimes slots in Palmer patrol. We are really sorry to see Scott leave, but Derek is off to a good start. DeGraaf also became a father for the first time on July 29 at 10:00 PM when **Grace** was born. Grace was 8 pounds exactly, was 20 inches long, and was born with lots of brown hair. Baby, mom, **Candice** and dad are doing great!

**Jane Schied** has reentered retirement. We were all truly sorry to see her leave.

Prior to leaving, she did manage to get indictments against both parents in the starvation death of an infant out of Unalakeet. The murder of **Baby Johnson** was surely a difficult, but rewarding case for Jane.

**Bill Hughes** has returned again to help pick up the workload in Anchorage ABI. We are very happy to have him back! He, too, hit the ground running and hasn't stopped yet.

Fish and Wildlife **Inv. Dara Scott** left the department to be able to spend more time with her daughter and explore other career possibilities. Dara had been with DPS since 1998. Her smiling face is sorely missed. We all wish her all the best in her new life!

We also lost **Inv. Margie Escobar** on August 20. Margie is moving to Michigan to be married on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. She has been with us since 1993 and is a wonderful investigator. Escobar had worked in Palmer, Ketchikan, Anchorage, and most recently in the Child Abuse Investigation Unit in Wasilla. We are all very sad to see her go. All our best wishes go with her.

Welcome to **Inv. TJ Summey** who transferred to Fairbanks ABI from Bethel back in April. He is working hard along side the rest of the investigators and doing a great job.

**Inv. Sue Acquistapace** retired at the end of April. Her skills and knowledge as a

trooper and investigator will be missed (as will her writing skills for the newsletter!) by the folks in Fairbanks and elsewhere. A party was held for her along with **Charlie Tressler** and **Greg Tanner**.

Our own **Stacy Gagnon** jumped out of an airplane for her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday! WOW! She is a whole lot braver than I am. I don't know that I could ever do that. She tells me that this is one more thing off her list of goals. Kind of makes you wonder what else is on that list!

The boys down in Soldotna have been busy. They have had multiple sex assault cases, a child pornography case, two shootings that have turned into homicides, and a stabbing/robbery case. Guess they haven't had much time for fishing this summer!

**ABI Boasts Of Being "Losers"!**

**Craig Allen** contacted me with the following information. Seems the MatSu ABI  
(ABI, continued on page 7)



Happy birthday, Stacy!

## ABI,

continued from page 6

guys are just a bunch of “losers”! It’s true, and there is no reason to deny it. As a unit, we work diligently to address every assignment we receive, and we strive to follow every lead to its logical conclusion. Yet, there is just no way to dispute the fact that we are, as a group, “losers”.

It all began back in January, when **Inv. Leonard Wallner** came into the office, boasting about being a loser. In fact, he seemed to be issuing a challenge to the rest of us, to see if we could become “losers” as well. Having always embraced the team approach to problem solving, we were all quickly on board with the concept of becoming “losers”. Given that Investigator Wallner apparently had a head start on the rest of us in this endeavor, many of us tried extra hard to become “losers”.

Although there is no real contest to see who could be the biggest loser, we all decided to establish an individual goal to achieve. Likewise, keeping a log of our efforts seemed logical, so we instituted a weekly check to monitor and record the results of our efforts to become “losers”.

Remaining motivated to work at being a “loser” is not always easy. There have been missteps along the way, no doubt, but with the application of a small amount of peer pressure from a fellow “loser”, the

proper course has been maintained. Ultimately, we are probably helping to improve the image we present to the over-all public, and may even be an inspiration to others who recognize that we are “losers”. Also, in the long run, our efforts to “lose” are better for the department as a whole, because we should be healthier.

That’s right, we’re *losing weight*. Our records indicate that from January 12, 2004, until April 05, 2004, the five participating “losers” here have lost a total of 75 pounds! When all of us meet our individual goals, we will have lost 175 pounds. In a skewed way of thinking, we figure that will create enough spatial distortion to move in an additional investigator to help carry the workload around here.

Congratulations to **Inv. Leonard Wallner**, **Sgt. Dallas Massie**, **Inv. Craig Allen**, **Inv. Scott Briggs** and **Inv. Tim Hunyor** for striving to become “losers”. (“losers” recognized in descending order relative to their respective losses- **Inv. Wallner** being the biggest loser of us all.)

We welcome **Inv. Bill Zamora** to the unit, who recently transferred from WIU in Anchorage. Being the consummate team player, **Inv. Zamora** promises to practice being a “loser” with the rest of us.

Now not to be left out, the folks of Anchorage ABI jumped on the Loser Wagon! Among the “losers” here were **Sgt. Curt**

**Harris** (the biggest loser), **Lt. Nils Monsen**, **Inv. Manny Vital**, **Inv. Chris Thompson**, **Vickie Miller**, **Stacy Gagnon**, and **Jeanne Sullivan**.

Now I heard that **Craig Allen** was employing some drastic measures in his attempt to become a “loser”! Either that or he REALLY wanted off stand-by duty.

Seems that over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, while four-wheeling with **Rodney Johnson**, they had a bit of mechanical difficulty involving a bent tie-rod on his Jeep. Being the resourceful (and slightly crazy) individuals they are, they decided to unbend it using the winch on one of the Jeeps. Well, as **Craig** can tell you, don’t put your little finger between a bumper and a winch cable that is tightening up! He lost about three-quarters of an inch off the end of his little finger. I hear the folks in Palmer are calling him Stumpy now!

**Curt Harris** and **Randy McPherron** went on a bike trek up to Talkeetna this past May to benefit the American Lung Association. We nearly lost **Randy** when he crashed his bike and cracked his shoulder bone. Wow, you should have seen what his helmet looked like!

We really need to teach these guys to take better care of themselves! Well, I hope that everyone has enjoyed the summer and will continue to enjoy our beautiful fall season. Please stay safe. ■

## Harley’s On The Road

The Alaska State Troopers were at the House of Harley-Davidson June 1, 2004, to unveil their 2 new 2004 Harley-Davidson Road King motorcycles. These cycles will be part of the DUI Enforcement Team in Palmer. Troopers on the motorcycles will work DUI Enforcement as well as traffic enforcement and other special assignments such as the Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival, and July 4th in Seward.

Troopers will have the use of the motorcycles for two years, at which time the effectiveness of the new motor unit will be evaluated to determine if Troopers will continue with the program.

“The Alaska State Troopers welcome the assistance of businesses and citizens  
(**Harley’s**, continued on page 8)



The new Harley-Davidson Road King motorcycles make up the DUI Motorcycle Team: (Left) **Trp. Dave Herrell**, **Trp. Michael Wooten**, **Sgt. Rick Terry**, **Col. Julia Grimes**, and **Trp. Troy Shuey** are shown along with a field of support staff.

## Harley's, continued from page 7

who support our efforts to make our highways safer," said **Colonel Julia Grimes**. "Traffic enforcement is one of our core missions, and these motorcycles will allow us to utilize resources that we might not otherwise have had access to. We intend to take full advantage of the unique law enforcement opportunities these motorcycles present. This is a new program for

us and we believe it shows our flexibility in seeking other effective ways to accomplish our mission."

On May 28, 2004, three troopers completed the Anchorage Police Department's (APD) two week long police motorcycle training program. "We are grateful to the APD for accepting our three new riders into their program," said Grimes. "This sort of training will maximize our trooper's

ability to use their new motorcycles effectively and safely." "The safety of the public, along with the safety of our troopers, is always our number one concern," said Grimes. "The new Motor Unit will increase our ability to detect and apprehend those who are driving under the influence, and we are determined to use this new tool to make Alaska's highways that much safer this summer." ■

## D.A.R.E. And M.A.D.D. In Alaska

Effectively and aggressively fighting the devastating affects of drugs and alcohol statewide, is one of the biggest challenges facing the Division of Alaska State Troopers. Troopers all over the state contribute to this effort every day, by arresting drunk drivers and drug dealers, and by being community role models for our youth. Those are very visible and tangible accomplishments, and are the result of good, proactive police work.

As those daily accomplishments continue, however, AST is working just as hard to identify other approaches to confront these challenges. **Commissioner William Tandeske** and **Col. Julia Grimes** feel strongly about our commitment to one of our six core functions, that of statewide drug and alcohol enforcement. This article will highlight some great examples of how we are emphasizing educational programs and seeking and obtaining funding from other sources, such as the Alaska Highway Safety Office and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, to fund specialized teams used for focused types of enforcement activity.

The overall commitment to the quality of life in Alaska is made up of a variety of approaches to public safety. The work involved in the D.A.R.E. program, efforts to introduce a School Resource Officer program, and the work by M.A.D.D. combine the importance of education and enforcement to achieve the goals of this important mission. Yet it is the individuals who put themselves on the line, on the roads and in the communities and schools, who make these programs successful.

### D.A.R.E.:

August 27, 2004 marked the most recent milestone in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program in Alaska. During the Culmination Exercise, or 'graduation', 13 students, including 4 Alaska State Troopers, and 1 VPSO, completed the most recent two-week training program. The students had attended class for 8 hours a day, put in more hours doing their homework, and completed their final exam which was a 45 minute presentation to a 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade class.

Commissioner Tandeske spoke during the Culmination Exercise. Tandeske said, "D.A.R.E. is an excellent example of making Community Policing work." Colonel Grimes also expressed her continuing support of D.A.R.E., describing first hand experience of how well the program works and its significance in rural areas. **Gov.**

**Frank Murkowski** has also sent letters of congratulations to each of the graduates.

The class included **Tps. Anne Sears**, Galena; **Ronny Simmons**, Glenallen, **Andrew Merrill**, Bethel, **Dan Cox**, Kodiak; **RPSO Neal Fulks**, Emmonak; and **VPSO Henry Anelon**, Atka. Special awards went to Trp. Merrill, Outstanding Student; VPSO Anelon, Outstanding Team Member; and Trp. Sears, Outstanding Team Member.

D.A.R.E. has been taught in a few schools in Alaska since the late 80s. AST was instrumental in bringing D.A.R.E. training classes to Alaska in 1996. Thirty-five officers including 16 VPSOs were the first graduates. In 1997, 34 additional officers were trained including 13 VPSOs and 4 troopers including one from Dillingham, Julia Grimes! D.A.R.E. Alaska has conducted 18 training classes including (D.A.R.E., continued on page 9)



D.A.R.E. Culmination Exercise was attended by (back left) Deputy Commissioner Ted Bachman, Commissioner Bill Tandeske, RPSO Neal Fulks, Trp. Ronny Simmons, Trp. Andrew Merrill, (front left) Major Joe Masters, VPSO Henry Anelon, Trp. Anne Sears, Colonel Julia Grimes, and Trp. Dan Cox.



## DARE,

continued from page 8

ing 6 initial training classes, specialty classes and annual in-service training for all officers. It has trained 150 D.A.R.E. officers in the last 8 years, 50 of which are VPSOs and 12 are Alaska State Troopers. In 2003, D.A.R.E. America approved accreditation of the Alaska D.A.R.E. Training Center.

In 2003 D.A.R.E. America introduced the New D.A.R.E. curricula. This incorporate the most up-to-date evidence and research-based strategies for substance abuse prevention programming. The program is designed to reduce the use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, and prevent violence among youth. The curriculum was developed by the University of Akron and is undergoing the largest prevention study ever conducted covering five years and involving 20,000 students. The results of the first two years are very promising.

The two-week D.A.R.E. Officer Training (DOT) has also been revised. Officers completing the training are certified to teach the elementary and middle school curricula. They are also certified as D.A.R.E. School Resource Officers meeting all national standards for SROs. All D.A.R.E. training is APSC certified and the DOT meets APSC MOI requirements.

### **SRO:**

DPS has also applied for a federal grant which will, in part, provide additional funding for a modified School Resource Officer (SRO) Program which will supplement this aspect of D.A.R.E. training. When the grant is approved, funding will



**Among those attending the M.A.D.D. Law Enforcement Recognition Banquet were: Commissioner Bill Tandeska, Deputy Commissioner Ted Bachman, Colonel Julia Grimes, Capt. Dennis Casanovas, Sgt. Rick Terry, Trp. Troy Shuey, Trp. Michael Wooten, Trp. David Harrell, and PIO Greg Wilkinson.**

be available to provide two troopers with specialized training as School Resource Officers. These troopers will then provide in-state training to 20 additional troopers across the State so they may set up localized programs to address safety issues including drug/alcohol abuse, gun and hunting safety, boating and ATV safety, and school and gang violence at schools within their areas. The project will also allow DPS to assist other agencies advance community policing by providing additional resources, and include hosting D.A.R.E. training sessions and offering training slots to other agencies.

### **M.A.D.D.:**

On August 28, 2004, Mother's Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.) hosted the Law Enforcement Recognition Banquet to recognize and congratulate Alaska peace officers for their commitment and dedication to public safety. Col. Grimes was a featured speaker commenting, "Since the

inception of the DUI Team, more than 321 arrests made for Driving Under the Influence, combined with the highly visible black cars and motorcycles, and trooper presence at numerous statewide public events, have gone a long way in convincing the drivers of Alaska that if they 'drive hammered, they'll get nailed'."

Alaska State Troopers recognized included: **Capt. Dennis Casanovas, Lt. Rick Roberts, Sgt. Rick Terry, Trp. Troy Shuey, Trp. Michael Wooten, and Trp. David Harrell;** and Public Information Officer **Greg Wilkinson.**

Col. Grimes, Commissioner Tandeske, and Governor Murkowski recognize the hard work, achievements and overall contributions of these outstanding individuals as well as those who support and otherwise participate in these programs. Our thanks to all AST and DPS personnel who make these efforts so worthwhile. ■

## DPS Staff Honored For 'Above And Beyond' Service

Under Alaska law, innocent victims of violent crimes occurring in Alaska are entitled to financial assistance through the Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) for medical and counseling service, wages lost due to injury, and other benefits. The requests for crime victims' compensation must meet eligibility requirements. The VCC Board must obtain and review investigative details usually reserved for law enforcement and pro-

secution officials. The law protects the confidentiality of Board claims.

In recognition that certain individuals have exhibited exceptional cooperation, helpfulness, and service, the Board has conferred the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award on these individuals:

### **Capt. Matt Leveque:**

When Capt. Leveque headed the AST Academy in Sitka, he ensured information on the State's crime victim compensation

program was included in academy training. He created exceptional training material to assist recruits in their understanding regarding eligibility and law enforcement notification requirements.

Since moving to AST headquarters and the newly formed Alaska Bureau of Investigation, he has taken a very active and involved role in ensuring the VCCB receives the law enforcement reports (**Above and Beyond**, continued on page 10)

## Above and Beyond,

continued from page 9

required to make claim determinations. He has been an invaluable help in ensuring the Board has the information required to make timely determinations.

### **Capt. Dennis Casanovas:**

The Board was having some difficulty obtaining required law enforcement reports related to claims from the Wasilla-Palmer area. When Capt. Casanovas learned of these problems, he took personal responsibility to ensure the Board received the required reports in a timely and expeditious manner. His personal commitment to ensure the VCCB was in receipt of required information has resulted in financial assistance for hundreds of innocent crime victims and their families.

### **Alice Sonju:**

The VCCB office is in Juneau and Board members are statewide. When the Board meets someone must travel. In ad-



(Left) Capt. Dennis Casanovas, Alice Sonju, Capt. Matt Leveque, APD Office Mike Fortuni received Above And Beyond the Call of Duty Awards from Gerad Godfrey, VCCB.

dition, the transferrance of documents and claim files must be coordinated.

For the VCCB, there has been a shining light in Anchorage each and every time the VCCB has met at the Scientific Crime Lab. This is Ms. Sonju, who is so accustomed to being cheerful and helpful that she doesn't consider herself exceptional.

If there were an award for being the kind of mother everyone wishes they had, then it would go to Ms. Sonju. Since there isn't such an award and because Ms. Sonju has been there for the weary travelers of the VCCB time and time again, the Board is happy to show her special recognition with this award. ■

## Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement (ABWE)

### *P/V Churchill* Commissioned

The new Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement *Patrol Vessel Churchill* was commissioned June 17, 2004, in Cordova, Alaska. **Mrs. Linda Churchill** did the honor of breaking the commissioning champagne bottle on the vessel.

This patrol vessel will patrol the Prince William Sound area. It is 44 feet in length with a 14-foot beam and cruising speed of 19 knots. This vessel was built by Kennedy Ship and Repair in Galveston, Texas. The skiff can be launched while the vessel is underway and can be brought back on board while underway.

The vessel is named in honor of **Sergeant David C. Churchill**. Sgt. Churchill, age 51, of King Salmon, died in the line of duty while checking a remote hunting party in the King Salmon area. Sgt. Churchill was a 12 plus year veteran of the division of Alaska State Troopers at the time of his death.

Sgt. Churchill joined the State Troopers on November 24, 1985, and had been sta-



Mrs. Linda Churchill after the commissioning of the *P/V Churchill*, June 17, 2004 in Cordova.

tioned in Palmer during most of his career. He worked in Patrol, General Investigations Unit (GIU), and Wildlife Enforcement. At the time of his death, he

was assigned as the King Salmon Post Sergeant in charge of the Regions Wildlife Enforcement Programs. FOAST provided a reception following the ceremony. ■

## ABWE A Detachment Southeast

By Lt. Todd Sharp

In Southeast the summer months have been just that *summer*. People have truly been out enjoying the outdoors, our troopers have been out finding and contacting them. All have been busy, and we have had four recent transfers.

**Trp. Tom Lowy** moved into the Klawock Post from Seward on June 1. **Trp. Scott Carson** transferred to Sitka Post from Petersburg on June 1. **Trp. Dan Shamhart** transferred into Petersburg Post from Wrangell on June 21, and **Bernard Chastain** received a promotion to Sergeant and transferred to the Ketchikan Post from Glennallen on July 1<sup>st</sup>. With the Wrangell Post vacant, Trp. Shamhart has been busy covering his new patrol area as well as his old. **Trp. Clint Songer** will be returning to SE from Cordova, he was the successful bidder for Wrangell Post. On Prince of Wales Island **Trp. Herv Ibarra** has been seen running around a lot. He ran in a local marathon and took second place with a time of 3:13! This sets him up for the Boston Marathon, and the local POW running club members are sponsoring him. Way to go, and good luck Hervey.

**Trp. Glenn Taylor** and his wife are expecting their first baby in September, congratulations Glenn and **Jennifer!** Klawock hired a new Public Safety Tech **Robert Combs**, welcome aboard Robert. Ketchikan Post had **Trp. Jeremy Baum** in Georgia attending boat school at FLETC, while **Trps. Mark Finses** and **Clyde Campbell** worked hard to keep the local area in check. They both "took one for the team" and are now both feeling much better after they rendered aide to a sick cruise ship passenger. Trp. Campbell and his wife added a baby boy to their household in April, congratulations Clyde and Sarah! BOIII **Laurence Nagy** has been traveling around a lot. He spent time aboard the *P/V Stimson* in Bristol Bay, and will be headed back to Texas soon to check on the final construction phase of the new *P/V Enforcer*, which we are hoping will be completed in September. Public Safety Tech **Wade McClennan** has also spent a lot of TDY time TDY assisting the patrol mission aboard the *P/V Stimson*.



**Lt. Todd Sharp (right) presented Trp. Shaun Kazakin with the 2003 Alaska boating Safety Officer of the Year award.**

In Sitka, **Trp. Shaun Kuzakin** received the 2003 Alaska Boating Safety Officer of the Year award. **Lt. Todd Sharp** presented the award to him in Juneau on July 21. This award is from the National Association of Safe Boating Law Administrators, and the Western States Boaters Association. Sitka welcomed back Public Safety Tech **Josh Nelson** who quickly got with the program and volunteered to "ride the buffalo" in front of the recruits at the Public Safety Academy.

Juneau **Trp. Mark Granda** made a voyage with Trp. Carson from Wrangell to Sitka, when the *P/V Protection* was moved to Sitka while Wrangell Post is vacant. They had good weather and a great trip making cases along the way and stopping into the communities of Port Alexander and Angoon. In Hoonah, **Trp. Andy Savland** has kept busy making cases while flying our super cub. Andy also welcomed back Public Safety Tech, **Brian Botts**.

In Juneau, **Trp. Rob Welch** and his wife had their second child in April, congratulations Rob and **Dawn!** Shortly after having the baby, Rob went TDY to work the Bristol Bay fishery while **Trps. Todd Machacek** and **Trp. Glenn Knapp**, and **Sgt. Steve Hall** kept the court and jail busy.

Sgt. Hall, along with his son **Sam**, appeared in 3 Southeast newspapers promoting National Safe Boating Week.

Public Safety Tech II **Ken MacIntosh** has returned to Juneau after about two years working in Fairbanks. **Carolyn Hall** continues to help all of us out, and is the proud mother of **State Trooper Recruit Tim Hall** who will attend the Public Safety Academy this fall. In Haines, **Trp. Pat McMullin** has been working his Lynn Canal gillnet fisheries, and spent time TDY in Yakutat. Haines new Public Safety Tech is **Shaun Virg-in**, welcome aboard Shaun. ■

**National Safe Boating Week**  
May 22-28, 2004  
Before you go...check:  
✓ Do you have the required equipment?  
✓ Do you have your vessel registration?  
For more information contact the  
Alaska State Troopers near you  
or visit the boating safety website at:  
[www.alaskaboatingsafety.org](http://www.alaskaboatingsafety.org).  
Paid for by your Alaska State Troopers.

**Sgt. Steve Hall and his son, Sam, were featured in a National Safe Boating Week advertisement published in 3 Southeast newspapers.**

# ABWE Mat-Su

By Lt. CHARLIE YODER

The Mat-Su ABWE region has certainly experienced some changes since the last Quarterly issue. The most noticeable event was the relocation of the Region's headquarters office. We moved across Palmer and as of July 15, we now have our own office. The process began a year ago to facilitate the growth of Palmer's ABI unit and the expanding needs of the Evidence section. Although we miss the camaraderie with the patrol troopers and staff of B Detachment headquarters, we do enjoy our new space.

A big benefit is that **Sgt. Tory Oleck** has his own office and no longer has to share a space with the troopers. The new phone system is definitely an upgrade with caller ID, call waiting, and call park as some of the features. The squad room walls are 16 feet tall so we have plenty of room to display our bear hides and big game mounts. If you are ever in the Palmer area please stop by and let us show our new office off to you.

**Trp. Bernard Chastain**, Glennallen Post, was promoted to ABWE Sergeant in Ketchikan. He was an important part of the Glennallen post and is greatly missed. **Trp. Jon Simeon** lost a working partner and pilot. We wish Bernard well in this new job.

Through a departmental reorganization at the end of June, the Anchorage ABWE post was added to our region. We welcome **Trp. Kim Babcock** and **PST 2 Kari Kittoe**.

The Talkeetna Patrol/ABWE office moved this summer also. The new location is much closer to the Parks Highway allowing **Trp. Jimmy Jones** and **PST 1 Bill**



**Lt. Charlie Yoder and AC3 Audrey Ayay-Dehart posed with their new office sign.**

**Payne** to be that much closer to the action. The huge influx of fishers has kept both of them really busy this summer.

Big Lake ABWE **Trp. Rick Pawlak** is working with a new K-9 named **Custa**. The dog was assigned to him in April. They attended the two-month APD K-9 class in April and May.

The payoff for all this training came quickly as **Trp. Pawlak** and **Custa** helped apprehend a man with \$72,000 in warrants in Wasilla who had eluded troopers several times before.

The Big Lake staff is looking forward to the arrival of **Cpl. Matt Hightower** in October. Although **Sgt. Mark Agnew**, **Trp. Cody Litster**, and **Trp. Pawlak** are doing a great job handling the activity, another capable trooper in the mix will certainly help spread out the workload.

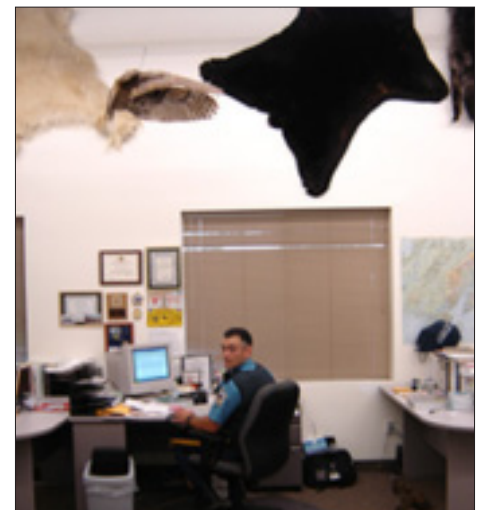
Congratulations are in order for **Trp. Jeff Duhrsen** who successfully completed both the AST Patrol and ABWE FTEP in June. Adding him to the Palmer team of **Trp. Doug Massie** and **Trp. Bill Connors**

will certainly cause fear and trepidation to the Valley wildlife violators.

Some of the ABWE staff took turns taking some time off this summer. **AC3 Audrey Ayay-Dehart** spent a week in Minnesota. Because of the difficulty in scheduling a flight to her next stop in Portland, she had to fly back to Anchorage from Minn. before catching the southbound Portland flight an hour later. She doubts she does that routing again. **Lt. Charlie Yoder** spent a hot and hectic 16 days touring Japan and visiting family last June and July. **Trp. Bill Connors** took a quick family vacation in Maui and got to swim with a group of sharks. He admits that was pretty exciting. **Eileen Brooks**, **AC2** of Big Lake post spent two weeks in Arizona, Montana, and Washington. ■



**AC3 Audrey Ayay-Dehart has a new work area in the new office location.**



**Trp. Doug Massie has a new work area with lots of room for their wildlife displays.**

# ABWE Troopers Snare Same Day Airborne Wolf Hunter

BY SGT. STEVE ARLOW

**Trp. Brett Gibbens** of the Division of Alaska State Troopers Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement (Western Region) in McGrath snares Pilot for Same Day Airborne hunting of Wolves in GMU 19 near McGrath. During the first few weeks in March, Trp. Gibbens had been monitoring the activities of a permit holder who was involved in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game wolf predator control program in the McGrath area. He was suspicious of the permit holder's actions and wolves harvested. Trp. Gibbens had a great deal of personal knowledge of the wolf packs in the area and what the pack size and color phases were. The area the permit holders claim to be involved in the predator control and the color phases of wolves they were harvesting did not add up in his mind.

He made contact with the hunters and obtained valuable information on bullet types and areas they claimed to be harvesting wolves. Later in the investigation, this information became invaluable. Trp. Gibbens, a trapper himself, was out trapping on March 26, 2004, on his day off. While flying his personal aircraft, he came across suspicious ski tracks and patterns in the snow that looked like methods used to hunt wolves from the air. His instincts were right, and after further investigation, they lead him to uncovering a major resource violation. The permit hunters were working 60 miles outside the predator control area, shooting wolves from their aircraft, making false statement on sealing certificates, and basically deceiving the Alaska Department of Fish and Game of their activities under the cloak of their legal permit.

Trp. Gibbens requested assistance from other ABWE Troopers and the State Crime Lab to help him investigate. **Trp. Matt Dobson** of Bethel, **Trp. Dennis Roe** of Fairbanks, Troopers from Soldotna, the ABWE investigation Unit, and **Jim Wolfe** from the Crime Lab responded to his call. Over the next few days several illegal kill sites were found with the assistance of Trp. Roe and the Department R-44 helo out of Fairbanks. Because of Trp. Gibbens' expertise in the area of wolf



**Trp. Brett Gibbens during the Wolf Investigation on the Upper Shift River Southeast of McGrath. Trp. Dennis Roe accompanied him as the pilot for the R-44 Raven helicopter. Trp. Gibbens has just finished skinning a wolf and removing several illegal wire snares from one of the defendant's illegal kill sites.**

hunting from aircraft and aircraft ski track patterns in snow, he could read the crime scene like a good novel. During this process the outside temperatures reached -20 below zero, but that did not stop ABWE Troopers from the investigation. The investigation became so involved ABWE Troopers from Soldotna had to assist in search warrants, seizures, and interviews. This investigation resulted in the seizure of a Piper Cub PA-12, rifles, wolf hides, and numerous other pieces of evidence.

This case is still pending prosecution, but after reading Trp. Gibbens' detailed investigation, crime lab results linking weapons to the scene, and the cooperation of the violator and his attorney, we are confident the State will prevail in this violation.

This investigation showcased the ABWE Unit working together as a team despite extreme weather and geographic boundaries. This is also a good testimony to those ABWE Troopers and other Troopers to always be aware while in the field hunting, fishing, hiking, or trapping to be vigilant. You may bust a major resource violation wide open, as Trp. Brett Gibbens did, on a Regular Day Off! ■



**Sgt. Steven Arlow and Phil Perry (ADF&G) of Bethel put on a Hunter Education Course for 13 students of the Village of Tuntutuliak on May 11th and 12th. The Students learning several topics: Management, Habitat, Conservation, Regulations, Hunting Skills, Game preparation, Shooting Skills, and Safe gun handling. Sgt. Arlow (right) posed with the teacher and three students.**

# AST Detachment News

## A Detachment Ketchikan

BY SHELLY DUNN, AST KETCHIKAN

### Arrivals/departures:

May 14<sup>th</sup> marked the second and final retirement party at Ketchikan Post for **Trp. A.J. Charlton**. AJ and **Laura** are enjoying the good life and traveling the country in their brand new 36-foot motor home. He stops by Post often to say hi and to brag about the motor home.

Ketchikan Post is looking forward to meeting Trp. Charlton's replacement, **Trp. Pat Nelson** of Healy. Trp. Nelson is due into Ketchikan soon to do his house hunting. We are looking forward to having him with us.

ABWE Tech **Jason Keirn** resigned in May to accept a position as a Corrections Officer at the Ketchikan Correctional Center. Good Luck Jason and family.

**Sgt. Bernard Chastain** arrived in Ketchikan from Glennallen in June to replace retired **Sgt. Ken Woldstad**, as ABWE Post Supervisor for Ketchikan, Klawock, Wrangell, and Petersburg. We are happy to have Sgt. Chastain, his wife **Lisa** and sons **Cade**, 6 and **Ryan**, 4, with us here in Ketchikan. Welcome.

**Lt. Rodney Dial** arrived in Ketchikan in July to take the helm as Deputy Commander of A Detachment. After a "full" day of house hunting he and his family found a very nice home to purchase. Lt. Dial, his wife **Lisa**, son **Ryker**, 10 and daughter **Megan**, 7, are happy to be back in Ketchikan. Welcome to sunny Ketchikan Dial family, from the "A" Team.

### Torch Run:

Ketchikan Post Troopers, **Trp. A.J. Charlton** and **Sgt. Lonny Piscoya** participated in the 2004 Torch Run in Ketchikan in May to raise money for Special Olympics.

### Trp. Jeremy Baum saves deer:

On July 9, 2004, **Trp. Jeremy Baum** was patrolling the Thorne Arm area aboard the *P/V Whaler*, when he observed a black tail buck in the water about a mile from shore. As he approached, it was obvious that the deer was having a difficult time swimming and keeping its head above the water. When the deer saw Trp. Baum, it immedi-



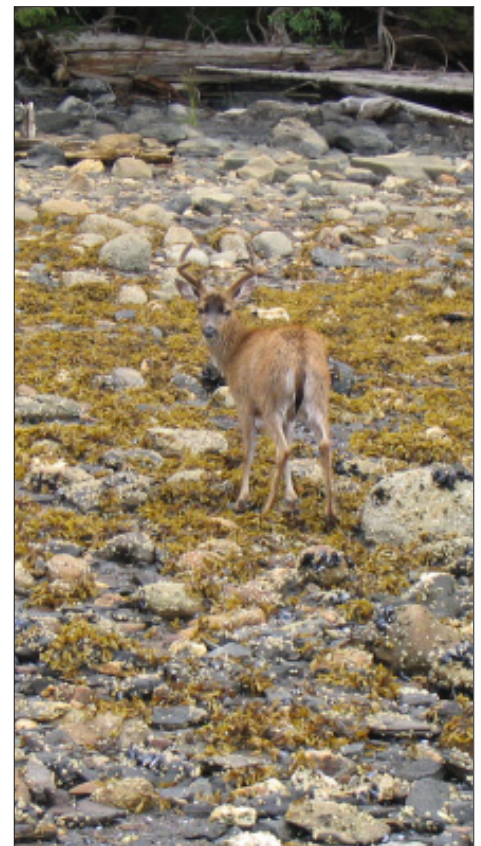
**Trp. Jeremy Baum** observed a deer while on patrol in the Thorne Arm area. When the deer saw him, he began swimming toward the boat. (See back page photo.)

ately started swimming to the boat. When it reached the boat the deer swam to the back near the transom and tried to climb aboard. Trp. Baum could see that the deer was not going to make it, so he pulled the deer into the boat. The deer was not able to move its legs, but he was able to hold his head up. He took the deer to the nearest shore about a mile away, but when he tried to coax the deer out of the boat, he did not want to leave. After about 20 minutes, he pulled the deer out of the boat and onto the shore. He helped the deer to his feet (hooves) and a short time later the deer wandered off into the woods.

(A Detachment, continued on page 15)



**Trp. Baum** was able to get the deer out of the water and into the patrol boat for a short ride to shore.



Knowing it had a 'good thing', the deer was reluctant to get out of the boat and back on shore but with some coaxing, he finally agreed to go.

A Detachment, continued from page 14



Definitely at home on the water, BOIII Lorne Nagy took his kids for a ride during the Post picnic.

**2004 Picnic:**

Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup>, marked the day of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ketchikan Post Picnic. Ward Lake was invaded by Ketchikan Post personnel and their families. There was food galore, with **Capt. Kurt Ludwig** slinging the burgers, hot dogs, moose ribs and king salmon on the barby. The kids had fun playing volleyball and taking rides in the canoe piloted by **Captain Lorne Nagy**. BOIII Nagy had to brush up on his water skills to prepare him for taking the helm of the new *P/V Enforcer* in October. Another successful picnic and best of all no rain.



Trp. Shane Nicholson shows his son, Trenton, the fine art of eating picnic finger-foods during the Post picnic.

**Appreciation:**

On July 21, 2004, RDII **Marianne Thomson** received a memo of appreciation from RDIII **Shelly Dunn** for volunteering to fill in at EOC for three weeks in June, prior to the closure. With very short notice she enthusiastically agreed to take on the last minute challenge. Thank you Marianne. We know EOC was happy to have you.

On June 25, 2004, **Sgt. Lonny Piscoya** and **Trp. Bob Claus** received a letter of appreciation from Special Olympics Alaska for his participation in the 2004 Alaska Law Enforcement Torch Run.

On June 26, 2004, RDII **Loralee Corbett** received a memo of appreciation from **Sgt. Andrew Isles**, Detachment Commander for the RCMP in Masset, BC for her dispatch assistance in a recent drug arrest. On June 24, 2004, through shares intelligence, the RCMP was able to coordinate and follow a 20-foot Alaskan registered pleasure craft, bound for Alaska, out of Masset Harbor in pre-dawn hours. The vessel tried to avoid apprehension and was forced to steer to shore and beach itself. Three U.S. residents were immediately apprehended, but a fourth Canadian suspect jumped off the vessel and escaped. RCMP seized several pounds of high-grade marijuana and a substantial quantity of cocaine and mushrooms. The street value was estimated at \$20,000.00.

On July 4, 2004, RDII **Cindy Stone** received a memo of appreciation from **Trp. Mark Eldridge** for her impressive display of exceptional dispatching during the heavy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Traffic Enforcement program.

**ABWE 1, Poachers 0:**

On July 31, 2004, at approximately 1715 hours, ABWE State Troopers were notified by a group of hunters via cell phone that three people had killed two deer on Punch Hill before the season opened. Troopers arrived the following morning at approximately 0545 hours via a Temsco Helicopter. **Trps. Mark Finses** and **Clyde Campbell** contacted two adult males and one female juvenile, all of Ketchikan. Investigation revealed the hunters had killed two deer at approximately 1715 hours on July 31, 2004. One adult male and the female juvenile were charged with taking game in a closed season. Two Sitka black tail deer and two hunting rifles were seized at the scene. ■



Ketchikan ABWE Trp. Clyde Campbell with a deer shot on July 31. The kill was a day prior to the opening of hunting season. Two hunters were charged with taking game in a closed season and their rifles were seized. A Temsco helicopter is shown in the background.

## FOAST On The Web

The website for the Fraternal Order of Alaska State Troopers is up and running! You can order products from the online catalogue. Go to: [www.alaskatroopermuseum.com](http://www.alaskatroopermuseum.com) ■

# B Detachment Palmer

BY: JILL BYBEE, AST PALMER

**Additions/Subtractions:**

We have two new arrivals in B Detachment to report. **Cole** and **Trp. Michleyn Grigg** had a baby girl, **Haley Nicole** (alias Tallulah) on July 29, at 12:01. She weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces. The question is out there already whether she'll become a Super Trooper like Mommy or follow in Daddy's footsteps and become an Anchorage Police Officer. Both mother and baby are doing fine. **Candace** and **Trp. Derek DeGraaf** had a baby girl, **Grace Camden** born also on July 29, at 10:00 p.m. She weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long. This is their first child. A big congratulation to both families.



**Cole** and **Trp. Michleyn Grigg** welcomed thier daughter **Haley Nicole**, born on July 29, 2004.



**Candace** and **Trp. Derek DeGraaf** welcomed their daughter **Grace Camden**, born on July 29, 2004.



**Lt. Randy Hahn** (right) received congratulations from **Capt. Dennis Casanovas** and **Palmer Post**, on his promotion to **Captain** prior to his transfer to **Anchorage**.

As usual, B Detachment has a flowing tide of folks in and out and moving all about . . . so on June 18 Palmer Post had a potluck to recognize **Lt. Randy Hahn** and his promotion to **Captain** for Anchorage ABWE. **Trp. Edward Halbert** was also there enjoying the food and sun before his transfer off to Nome AST. We all wish him good luck in his new assignment Stay warm . . .

**Trp. Scott Briggs** has been selected to begin focusing on Burglary Suppression

efforts. He joined **Trp. David Willson** who has been doing tremendous work in the unit. **Trp. DeGraaf** replaced **Trp. Briggs** in Alaska Bureau of Investigation in Palmer. **Trp. Mike Ingram** has been selected by ABADE to work at the Mat-Su ABADE office in a six-month training assignment.

A big welcome to the new recruits who arrived in Palmer on July 6, 2004: **Nathan Duce, Judy Parris, Josh Heinbaugh, Kim** (B Detachment, continued on page 17)



**Trp. Edward Halbert** (right) received recognition from **Lt. Rick Roberts**, prior to his transfer to **Nome**.



## B Detachment, continued from page 16

### Sledgister, Mitch Lewis, and Dean Whisler.

A welcome to **Romina Maneval**, the new Administrative Clerk at the Talkeetna Post. She had a quite a first day.

Here's what she had to say: "My first day on duty as Talkeetna Post's new Administrative Clerk in training turned out to be an eventful one. Ready to learn the ropes from my predecessor **Jill Veloske-Bybee**. Jill informed me the day after July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday would be a good training day. Well, little did we know my training would include assistance in apprehending an Indiana man wanted for murder.

The subject turned himself in to the Talkeetna Post. Although there were no Troopers in the office, fortunately the suspect fully cooperated and we quickly cleared the lobby as well as contacting the new Matcom Dispatch Center to confirm the warrant and to send us a Trooper. Within minutes, ABWE's **Sgt. Tory Oleck**

and **Trp. Bill Connors** were on location and the fugitive was placed in custody. All this within the first one and a half hours of my shift. What a first day initiation."

### Big Lake Boat Patrol:

The patrol was a great splash with the folks who were encountered on the weekend of July 24 and 25. Over these two days, the Coast Guard, with **Trp. Howie Peterson** and **Trp. Tom Akelkok**, made contact with approximately 60 boats or jet skis. Of these contacts, 24 citations were issued.

A medical assist occurred on Saturday with a lady who had fallen and possibly broke her tailbone at the "The Call of the Wild" restaurant during a wedding. On Sunday, the troopers assisted a 15-year-old male who injured himself while jumping off a dock. The EMS boat ran out of gas on the other side of the lake while enroute. However, the terrific weather

added to the positive contacts made with the Big Lake Boaters and community.

### Talkeetna Blue Grass

Once again the Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival has concluded on a successful note. **Sgt. Rod Johnson** along with nine other troopers succeeded in keeping the highways safe. While arrests were slightly higher than last year, there were no arrests for drugs outside the Festival. Only one fatality involved was due to a Bluegrass staff member losing control of his ATV. Troopers utilized marked patrol vehicles, stealth DUI vehicles (black, soft light) Helo one and two Harley Davidson Motorcycles. By our presence, our customers were encouraged to behave outside of the Festival grounds. The Festival utilized approximately 380 hours of Trooper time over four days. Our appreciation to the Troopers involved and the families who, over these four beautiful sunny days, did not see them. ■

## Tidbits from Nome

BY GLORIA KARMUN, AST NOME

**Terry Miller**, Administrative Clerk II was newly hired on May 17, 2004.

**Trp. Ed Halbert** officially reported for duty on June 22, transferring from the Palmer post along with his wife Galilee, son Moses and their daughter Gennesaret M.C. Halbert.

Unalakleet **RPSO John Brown** was promoted to trooper and officially transferred to the Kotzebue post on September 1, 2004. Post personnel honored Brown at a "pinning ceremony" and presented him with his new badges during an informal potluck held the evening of August 9.

**Sgt. Burke Barrick** was officially promoted to Lieutenant and transferred to the Fairbanks post on September 15.

The post troopers continue, on a rotating basis, to transport prisoners to and from Kotzebue.

The Alaska Sealife Center Rescue and Rehabilitation Program was in Nome, August 9, and released two rescued seals into the Safety Sound. "Animal Planets" production agency from Anchorage recognized rescuing **Trps. John Brown,**



**Striking a pose** are troopers **Aileen Witrosky** and **John Brown** before the release of the ring seals into Safety Sound. Each trooper rescued and cared for the seals before the mammals were shipped off to the Alaska Sealife Center Rescue & Rehabilitation Program in Seward.

**Aileen Witrosky**, and Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement **Trp. Paul Kosto** for a future show.

**Representative Richard Foster**, District 39, on occasion, visits post personnel

when he's home on break. During Foster's visit on August 9, personnel discovered he and Sgt. Barrick celebrate their birthdays back-to-back.

(Tidbits, continued on page 18)

## Tidbits, continued from page 17



Homeward bound, "Swingley," along with "Seavy" were rehabilitated at the Alaska Sealife Center in Seward and released into Safety Sound. Rich Capitan, left, Outreach Education Specialist and Tim Lebling, Rehabilitation Technician accompanied the pair to Nome to ensure their safe release.



Out of session and in the house, Representative Richard Foster, District 39 on occasion visits the post while at home. His visit, August 9, was perfect timing on his part, as the office was celebrating Trp. John Brown's informal badge pinning and Sgt. Burke Barrick's birthday (prior day). Foster was able to celebrate his own, birthdays back-to-back, perfect.



Crystal, clear, beautiful spring day, just a little east of Nome. Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement trooper Paul Kosto heads home after a day in the field.

At Trp. Brown's informal pinning ceremony, attendees also celebrated Sgt. Barrick's birthday. The informal gathering offered an awesome array of potluck dishes, deserts, and of course, the best thing on the menu was the company. ■

## All In A Days Work

BY TRP. PAT NELSON, HEALY POST

I got a call about a seagull being shot in front of the Denali Princess Lodge (8000 employees, over 800 guest rooms, a very populated and busy area) On the way I'm thinking, 'okay some idiot shot a seagull with a pellet rifle. I can write the summons and be back at the house in time for Jeopardy.'

I got there and pulled up into the parking lot and there were frantic people mulling around this obliterated seagull lying on the sidewalk in front of the Lodge and pizzeria. I'm thinking to myself, 'okay this was not just a pellet rifle.' I do the Trooper thing, interviews, photos, diagrams, and collect the seagull as evidence and contact the seagull butcher who is a guest at the Lodge.

Upon contact, he's off course, around a .300 BAC. It turned out, he pulled into the parking lot, hopped out of his truck and quickly retrieved a lever action 30/30 from behind the seat and smoked this seagull right off the sidewalk in front of the lodge and pizza joint as pedestrians were walking by and enjoying the Denali scenery. When asked why he did it, he claimed he was tired of them getting

caught in his net! (Seems he's a long liner from Valdez.)

Soooo the story continues..... Bad guy goes to jail for various crimes but he has a 75 pound black lab dog which I can't leave in the guest room because, of course, the bad guy's not coming back anytime soon. I load them both up in the rear of the patrol car and take him to jail with the intention of dropping the dog off at the night drop pound so the guy can pick him up when he gets out.

I was in the jail booking said bad guy and came out only to discover the dog had climbed through my prisoner screen into the front seat and eaten my seagull evidence in the front seat of my car.

Needless to say to my dismay, feathers, blood, and guts were all over the inside of my car. Turned out he has eaten my favorite night time pastry as well as spilled my \$3.00 cup of yuppie cafe latte coffee all over my driver's seat. And as if I wasn't angry already, there were no lower dog storage kennels available so I had to lift this 75-pound lab shoulder high into the top kennel. Some days you just have to grin, and remember why we do this job. ■

# D Detachment Fairbanks

## A Photo Glance

COMPILED BY TRP. ALAN CARVAJAL, AST FAIRBANKS



Two D Detachment Troops in the Fairbanks area participated in the Fairbanks Law Enforcement Torch Run which took place at University of Alaska Fairbanks campus this year. CSO Cheryl Gilmour and Trp. Rachael Foster completed the 10 K run and represented AST very well.



CSO Cheryl Gilmour worked very hard to arrange for new Automatic Defibrillators to be placed in the Rabinowitz courthouse in Fairbanks.



A Parks Highway Trooper has an attraction for mosquitoes. Trp. Ledelle Arntston is stationed at the Nenana post and he is obviously one tough and well-disciplined Trooper!



Dispatcher Monica Lewis and Steve Dutra welcomed their son Joshua Joseph Dutra, aka J.J., into the family at 0632 hours at Fairbanks memorial Hospital on June 2, 2004. J.J. weighed in at 7 pounds, 15 ounces and 20 inches long. All are doing well. And then, Trooper Kevin and Malissa Blue proudly announced the birth of George Wade Blue born August 9, 2004 at 5:32 pm. He weighed 8 pounds 13 ounces.

*You know you're from Alaska if you measure distance in hours.*



**AST Won APOA Trophy:**

On 31 July 2004, the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA) held a competition shoot at the Fairbanks International Airport. AST won the overall APOA competition trophy.

The team of Trooper Sgt. Tim Schoenberg, Trp. Derek Loop, and UAFPD/Capt. Sean McGee won the first place team trophy, and Trp. Loop won the second place overall shooter trophy.

It has been many years since AST has participated in the APOA shoot. It was obvious that AST was present when looking at the fact that AST scores were way above the overall competition average.

**E Detachment Soldotna**

By SHAE HOLLANDSWORTH, AST SOLDOTNA

On May 15, several E Detachment employees and their families participated in the Alaska Law Enforcement Torch Run, benefiting the Alaska Special Olympics. Thanks to those of you who participated, as you are wonderful representatives of AST.

AST Dispatch Supervisor **Dottie Ayer** retired on July 31, after 18 years of service. Dottie was applauded by AST, Central Emergency Services, Kenai Police Department, Soldotna Police Department, and other agencies for her dedication and professionalism over the years. During the many speeches at Dottie’s retirement party, we were sure someone would roast her with the “Dottie the Human PEZ Dis-



**The Torch Run Team: Brenda Johnson; Dispatcher Supervisor Tammy Goggia; Rachel and Trp. Larry Erickson with son, Michael; Mrs. and Trp. Mike Henry; Sgt. Barry Wilson; and Inv. Dane Gilmore and daughters Taylor and Cori**



**Dottie Ayer received a farewell gift from DPS, presented by Major Joe Masters.**

penser” story, but the speakers were on their best behavior. Dottie received several gorgeous gifts, but perhaps the most special was a quilt, hand-made by dispatcher **Glenda Sterling**, that sports a patch from every agency served by Soldotna Dispatch. It will be a lasting reminder of all the lives she has touched, lives she has saved, and all the people she has supported and aided throughout her career.

**CSO Butch Wilkins** is back in Kenai. Wilkins spent many years in Kenai before

transferring to Bethel and Anchorage. The Kenai JS crew is happy to have him back home, and plans on keeping him plenty busy.

E Detachment sends out a warm welcome to our two newest Trooper Recruits, **Johnny Groover** and **Vanessa Meade**. Trp. Recruit Groover is a former Conservation Officer from Indiana. He is a pilot, and loves to hunt and fish, so the Kenai Peninsula is a great location. After driving all the way from Indiana to Alaska with his  
(E Detachment, continued on page 21)

## E Detachment

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wife and four children, we're thinking the whole FTO process will seem like a piece of cake!

Trp. Recruit Meade has lived on the Kenai Peninsula for five years. Prior to that, she spent eight years in the Army. She was stationed in Puerto Rico and Fort Bragg, and served in Desert Storm. She was a paratrooper and in the Military Police. Trp. Recruit Meade also used her Master's Degree to work in the mental health field (perhaps trying to figure out what would make a person jump out of an airplane).

Meade brings an amazing sense of humor to the Soldotna Post. If it's true that a Trooper's greatest weapon is their mouth, then Vanessa comes armed to the teeth. She'll have her suspects rolling around on the ground laughing, begging for mercy.

**Rupe Marries Browning And Dunn**  
(What kind of post is Sgt. Hibpshman running?)

Trp. **Ryan Browning** tied the knot with **Kimberly Dunn** on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Trp. **Jeremy Rupe** conducted the ceremony at the Rupe residence. Trp. Browning is now a father to **Bradley**, age 7, and **Denali**, age 5. Surely those two will get him broken in in time for the arrival of their new sibling, who is on the way. Congratulations, Ryan and Kimberly!

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*Are there any Homer Post Troopers who HAVEN'T officiated a wedding yet?*

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It seems like every time we turn around, Trp. **Bryan Barlow** is in the newspaper, doing something to make the Troopers look good. This time, Trp. Barlow officiated at the wedding of a Washington couple. **Lane Olinghouse** and **Joan Bowles** wanted to be married by an Alaska State Trooper in memory of Joan's son-in-law, a police officer and SWAT member who was killed in the line of duty in Tacoma, Washington, approximately a year ago. Trp. Barlow was honored to be chosen to perform the ceremony, and thought it was a great experience. Are

there any Homer Post Troopers who HAVEN'T officiated a wedding yet?

Sgt. **Brandon Anderson** organized the first-ever **Patti Godfrey Survivor Rollerblade Challenge**, a nine-mile race that raised money for the Special Olympics and Victims of Justice. The race, held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, began at the Resurrection Roadhouse and ended at the Exit Glacier ranger station. The star of the race, of course, was Patti Godfrey, who has made a remarkable comeback after 911 problems forced her to wait 48 minutes for help to arrive after she had been shot. Mrs. Godfrey has put her skates back on and has completed several races, including the 26-mile Duluth Northshore Inline marathon. Both Mrs. Godfrey and Sgt. Anderson hope the Patti Godfrey Survivor Rollerblade Challenge will be an annual event in Seward.

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*Mrs. Godfrey and Sgt. Anderson hope the Patti Godfrey Survivor Rollerblade Challenge will be an annual event in Seward.*

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The Fourth of July weekend in Seward brought more than just in-line skaters,

though. Thousands of people descended upon campsites along Exit Glacier Road and Preacher's Pond to party. Seward Troopers, along with reinforcements brought in from Soldotna, were kept incredibly busy dealing with intoxicated people, assaults, drug offenses, and burning vehicles encircled by dancing partygoers.

Girdwood, too, has been incredibly busy. For the entire summer, they have been at least one trooper down, which keeps the other 3 hopping. Sgt. **Keith Mallard** returned at the beginning of July from two months of Canine Instructor School in Wyoming. He probably never thought anything could make that Turnagain Arm wind seem mellow, but Sgt. Mallard said the wind was "ALWAYS blowing" in Wyoming. Sgt. Mallard will be sharing instructor duties for AST with **Inv. Scott Johnson** from Fairbanks, and is excited about the opportunity to share with other handlers something that he truly enjoys.

Overheard at the front counter in Soldotna: After receiving an apology for a sloppy signature on a receipt from a clerk, a deliveryman said,

"It's okay. I'm **illegitimate** and can't read it anyway." ■



The Girdwood Forest Festival started out as an art fair and the tradition has continued for the past 29 years. This year, it was celebrated July 2 through 4. In recent years the event has attracted around 25,000 people per day. Each year, trooper presence is increased, in part, as a result on the increasing number of travelers on the Seward Highway heading for the Peninsula, as well as those going to the Festival. This year, 9 troopers were assigned to the event. Sgt. Keith Mallard stopped to assist some visitors during the Forest Fair Parade on July 3.

## To All DPS Employees:

On December 12, 2004, **Lisa Kosto** and myself (both employed at the Soldotna Communications Center) will be joining over 20,000 runners at the Honolulu Marathon, to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma's Society Team in Training.

By making a pledge on our behalf, you are supporting the Society's national research efforts to find a cure for all who are battling blood related cancers.

A member of the DPS family, **Judy Benning**, wife of **CSO Rob Benning**, has graciously given us permission to pay tribute to her and her personal journey through the challenges and triumphs of her battle with ovarian cancer. We would like to dedicate our 26.2-mile trek in Judy's honor.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000. Please help us reach our goal with your contribution. You can send your tax-deductible donations to:

**"Team in Training"**  
**Attn.: Tammy Goggia**  
**DPS/E-Detachment**  
**45245 K-Beach Road**  
**Soldotna, AK 99669.**

On behalf of volunteers, supporters, and all who are battling with blood cancers, we thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely,  
 Tammy Goggia ■

# Division of Fire Prevention

## Fire Prevention News

BY JODIE HETRICK

### *Alaska State Fire Marshal's Office receives National Award for Excellence in Rural Fire Prevention*

The Alaska State Fire Marshal's Office received the 2004 Award for Excellence in Rural Fire Prevention during the 2004 National Association of State Fire Marshals Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, July 10, 2004.

The National Association of State Fire Marshals selected the Alaska State Fire Marshal's Office for their use of a multi-level strategy to prevent fire deaths in Alaska.

1. Adoption of a modern integrated set of codes for the built environment as a foundation for all fire prevention efforts.
2. Building Plan Reviews to ensure that buildings are designed to prevent fires and reduce the spread of fire.
3. Fire and Life Safety code enforcement to ensure that the buildings are built and maintained to code.
4. Fire Safety Education training to firefighters and other community members to increase the public's knowledge of fire safe behaviors.
5. Statewide Fire Prevention programs to educate Alaskans not served by a fire department.
6. Fire data collection to recognize fire loss patterns and identify prevention strategies.

7. Firefighter training to provide local fire departments with the skills to safely fight a fire.

8. Fire cause investigation to identify hazards and help develop strategies to prevent further fires.

### Alaska State Fire Marshal's Office *Summary of Rural Fire Prevention Programs*

Due to the high number of fire deaths in rural Alaska, the State Fire Marshal's Office has instituted several fire prevention programs focused on training rural communities to reduce the threat of fire.

For the forty-year period from 1961 to 2000, Alaska experienced a high rate of death from fire. On average, 28 people died from fire every year; 22 of those were in rural areas. Although there has been a consistent decline in fire deaths since the mid-1980s, the latest period from 1999 to 2003 is the most dramatic reduction of fire fatalities with an average of 13. Seven fire deaths occurred in 2003, one-fourth of the previous forty-year period.

After analysis of fire fatality data indicated that rural fire deaths were disproportionately high in rural Alaska, the State Fire Marshal's Office focused on programs to deliver fire safety programs to rural communities. These programs have had a significant impact on improving fire safety in rural Alaska.

Examples of specific programs

- **Project Code Red:**  
 Provides Alaskan rural communities with an efficient and cost-effective fire suppression system design. A fire prevention training component is included in the package.
- **Alaska Rural Basic Firefighter Certification:**  
 Utilizing a highly modified version of the NFPA Firefighter I course, this certification program provides the students with training in basic fire fighting and fire prevention techniques.
- **Rural Inspection Improvements:**  
 An increased emphasis on Life Safety Inspections improves the probability of identifying a hazardous situation and requiring corrective action.
- **School Sprinkler Mandate:**  
 An emergency regulation mandating school sprinkler systems was enacted in 1998 to reduce the huge loss of property to fire in Alaska's schools. In the 5-years prior to this regulation, Alaskan schools averaged \$8.1 million in loss to fire. In the 5-year period after the regulation was enacted, Alaskan schools average less than \$40,000 in loss to fire.
- **Fire Prevention Month Support Boxes:**  
 Fire safety and prevention materials are distributed to fire departments around the (Fire Prevention, continued on page 23)

# Fire Prevention,

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state to expand their ability to educate their community.

The National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) represents the most senior fire official of each of the 50 United States and District of Columbia. State Fire Marshals' responsibilities vary from state to state, but Marshals tend to be responsible for fire safety code adoption and enforcement, fire and arson investigation, fire incident data reporting and analysis, public education, and advising Governors and State Legislatures on fire protection.

**Director's Office:**

**Jo Brown**, Director's Secretary retired in May after 31 years working for the State of Alaska. Jo's professionalism was an essential element to the efficiency of the Director's office. She will be traveling, gardening and relaxing during her retirement.

**Kelly Nicoletto**, Assistant State Fire Marshal, left his position to pursue business as the owner of Northern Interiors. Nicoletto worked for the Division for more than 10 years. He started as a Deputy Fire Marshal I in the South Central Regional Office. He was promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal II Supervisor of the South Central Region Office in 1995. He became the Assistant State Fire Marshal in 2000 and he was a vital asset to the operation of the Division.



Assistant State Fire Marshal Kelly Nicoletto retired after more than 10 years of service to Alaska.



State Fire Marshal Gary Powell (right) and Public Education Coordinator Jodie Hettrick receive the Excellence in Fire Prevention Award from Wyoming State Fire Marshal Jim Narva during the Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Chet Weger**, Fire Protection Specialist, retired from his position in June.

**Cassandra Byrne**, formally Administrative Clerk III for the Life Safety and Inspection Bureau, is the new Director's Secretary. She brings with her a great deal of knowledge and experience which she has acquired during her five years as Admin Clerk for the South-Central Region. Life Safety and Inspection Bureau

Congratulations to **Deputy Fire Marshal I Dan Jones** and his wife **Jamie** on the birth of their first child. **Caleb** was born on August 5 at 7:00 am.

Congratulations to Deputy Fire Marshal I Dan Jones and **Deputy Fire**

**Marshal I Steve "Rusty" Belanger** on successfully testing and passing the Fire Inspector, Building Plans Examiner and Commercial Mechanical Inspector certification exams.

Welcome to **Amra Custer**, Administrative Clerk III. She joined the Bureau in the Southeast Office to provide clerical support for **Deputy Fire Marshal I Robert Plumb**.

The Bureau has been involved in several large fire related investigations this quarter. LSIB Deputy Fire Marshal I Dan Jones and Deputy Fire Marshal I Steve "Rusty" Belanger joined ABI to investi-

(Fire Prevention, continued on page 24)



Congratulations to Deputy Fire Marshal I Dan Jones and his wife Jamie on the birth of their first child, Caleb.

## Fire Prevention,

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gate the Arson/Homicide of a Wasilla man in August.

LSIB Supervisor **Deputy Fire Marshal II Carol Olson** and Deputy Fire Marshal I Steve "Rusty" Belanger and ABI worked together to investigate the arson of the Akiak Public Safety Building. Akiak did not have any fire equipment so was not able to provide any fire suppression during the fire. The building was a complete loss. Akiak is participating in *Project Code Red* but had not received their unit or training at the time of the fire.

**Deputy Fire Marshal Tom Depeter** traveled to Kaktovik to investigate the cause of the fire that destroyed the Kaktovik fire station. Initial investigation indicates that the fire appears to have started in the dryer.

### *The Fairbanks Wild Land Fires*

By Deputy Fire Marshal I **Tom Depeter**

June was a very interesting month in the Interior. Wildland fires occurred in many locations prompting the Department of Natural Resources to ask the State Fire Marshal to institute a Statewide ban on the sale and use of fireworks. Fairbanks was shrouded in smoke for about a week with the Boundary and Wolf Creek fires burning just outside of the City. These fires prompted an evacuation of many residents in the Haystack Subdivision area. With the efforts and cooperation of many fire crews and Mother Nature, the fires were eventually controlled. The Fairbanks Fire Marshal's Office was inundated with phone calls from concerned citizens. The Alaska State Troopers were called to work long shifts, protecting the evacuated homes from possible vandalism.

The pictures at right show the fire overcoming the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, which sustained only superficial damage.

### *Plans Review Bureau*

The Plans Review Bureau set a new record in 2004. They reviewed over 1000 sets of building plans in fiscal year 2004. That is approximately 200 more than in 2003. The building plans for the new Valley Hospital in the Mat-Su Borough is just an example of the large projects that are submitted for review by our bureau.

(**Fire Prevention**, continued on page 25)





# Fire Prevention,

continued from page 24

**Plans Examiner Ronnie Watts** moved from the Plans Review Bureau to the Joint Pipeline Office as a Fire Protection Specialist to oversee Pipeline safety. He replaces Fire Protection Specialist **Chet Weger** who recently retired.

We welcome **Plans Examiner Kayle Lightkeeper** to the Plans Review Bureau. She has an extensive background in public service. She began her career as a 911 dispatcher with the Fairbanks Police Department then moved to dispatch for the Alaska State Troopers in Fairbanks. Lightkeeper has also worked as a Paramedic in Fairbanks and served as their fire investigator for ten years. In Juneau, Lightkeeper built and supervised the Spill Response Team for the Department of Environmental Conservation, and served as the Safety Officer for the department. She was an accident/fatality investigator for the Alaska Department of Labor in Anchorage. Most recently she worked for Anchorage Fire Department as a fire inspector. She has her Bachelors degree in Fire Prevention Technology and occasionally instructs at the University of Alaska-Anchorage.

We also welcome **Misti Simonds**, Administrative Clerk II, to the Bureau. She transferred to the Plans Review Bureau from the Criminal Records and Identification Bureau in June. She is doing a fantastic job getting the Bureau back to functioning efficiently after the recent reorganization.

## **Training and Education Bureau** *Fire Service Training*


Fire Instructors **Bud Rotroff** and **Gary Moore** traveled to Shungnak in July for *Project Code Red*. The class was held in the school and the instructors stayed in an empty teacher apartment. Hospitality and accommodations were excellent. There is no VPSO in Shungnak. The Battalion Fire Chief, **Billy Lee**, was present and attended all classes. He is an experienced firefighter with the Kotzebue Fire Department and working hard to improve the level of fire protection in the community. The students were able to use their resources to make the class progress

smoothly, and to make the class very productive.

Ten students completed the course and the test with a passing score. A fire prevention education class on fire extinguisher use was presented to 30 community residents. The emergency lighting and exit signs in the clinic were tested at the request of the clinic supervisor. One Health Aid, **Lottie Tickett**, attended the fire extinguisher training. A Heartsaver CPR/ First Aid course was presented and 18 students successfully completed that course including Health Aid, **Charlene Tickett**.

Additional time was made available to the community to work with fire protection issues. The student's main concerns were the need for a first aid/ CPR course and their hydrant locations and accessibility, lack of fire hose available, lack of working nozzles, and other appliances. All of the students were very interested in fixing the problems found in the village and learning

**REMINDER—**  
**CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS**



**CHANGE YOUR SMOKE  
DETECTOR BATTERY  
DAYLIGHT SAVING  
TIME ENDS  
OCTOBER 31, 2004**

more about firefighting. The general knowledge of fire protection and suppression in the village was relatively high. ■



**Bud Rotroff and Gary Moore in Shungnak for Project Code Red.**



**Fire Training Specialist Bill Hedrick at the Fairbanks Fire Service Training Office installed a new sign this summer.**

## Division of Statewide Services

# Alaska Becomes 37<sup>th</sup> DRE State

By **CHUCK HAYES**

DRE REGIONAL OPERATIONS COORDINATOR, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

Three Alaska police officers will soon be joining nearly 6,000 other police officers from throughout the U.S. known as Drug Recognition Experts (DREs). **Officer Steve Dunn** from the Anchorage Police Department, **Sgt. Richard Terry** of the Alaska State Troopers and **Chief Milt Hanikan** of the Nenana Police Department recently completed the comprehensive Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program training course in Oregon and Washington. The three officers join **Sgt. Will Hutt** of the Homer Police Department as Alaska's first officers to be trained in the international drug impaired driving program.

The program, under the direction of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), is currently being used in 37 states and Canada. It was first developed in Los Angeles, California in the early 1970's and is designed to assist police officers in identifying drivers who drive under the influence of drugs.

According to **Chuck Hayes**, the DRE Regional Operations Coordinator for the IACP who helped facilitate the training, drugged driving has become a problem in many areas throughout the world. "It is a very serious problem in our society and is a major traffic safety concern for law enforcement everywhere" said Hayes. "The incidents of drugged driving are on the increase, not only with illegal drugs, but also due to the misuse and abuse of over-the-counter substances and prescription drugs" stated Hayes. Hayes, along with two DRE instructors from Oregon and

Washington were in Anchorage during June to assist with the final phase of the officers training. To successfully complete the DRE training, officers must attend 10 days of classroom training and then complete a series of field evaluations under the close supervision of certified DRE instructors.

The three officers conducted the final phase of their training at the Anchorage City Jail. Within the first hour of their training they had their first suspected drug-impaired driver to evaluate. An Alaska State Trooper from Palmer had arrested a 44-year-old Palmer woman after receiving a citizen's complaint about her. The trooper located the women near Palmer and determined that she was unsafe to drive and suspected the use of drugs. After conducting some field sobriety tests, the trooper placed her under arrest for DUI. She was transported to the Anchorage Jail where Sgt. Terry conducted a drug evaluation using his newly acquired training. Sgt. Terry determined that she was under the influence of a Central Nervous Stimulant and that she was unable to drive a vehicle safely even though her blood alcohol level was under .08%, the legal limit for Alaska. "Without the DRE training, I probably wouldn't have known what was causing her impairment and not known what to look for. Now I do," stated Sgt. Terry.

**Jeanne Swartz**, a Criminalist with the Alaska Department of Public Safety and the DEC Program Coordinator for Alaska believes that the training will assist offic-

ers in identifying and gathering evidence on drivers under the influence of drugs. "Most police officers in Alaska are well trained in how to identify drivers under the influence of alcohol. However, most officers don't know what tests to do or what to look for when they suspect drugs other than alcohol. DRE training will definitely make a difference when it comes to identifying drugged impaired drivers" stated Swartz.

Sgt. Terry, a 20-year veteran of the Alaska State Troopers supervises the DUI Enforcement Team out of Palmer and is a strong believer in the training program. "This is great training and something that I wished I would have got many years ago," stated Terry.

Officer Dunn, an 8-year veteran of the Anchorage Police Department has been trying to get into the training program for several years and finally got the opportunity this past May. Thanks to a grant from the Alaska Governor's Highway Safety Office, the three officers were able to attend the training in Oregon and Washington, which have been in the program since 1995 and 1996 and have over 400 DRE trained officers combined. Since initiating the program, Oregon and Washington have seen over a 150% increase of drugged driving arrests.

Once trained and certified through the IACP and the State of Alaska, the three newly trained DREs will use their skills and knowledge to assist identifying drug impaired drivers and help further the DEC Program in Alaska. ■

## Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory

Twelve-year veteran **Walter McFarlane** has retired from the laboratory after 12 years of service. McFarlane's talents of teaching throughout the Law Enforcement community, being on the Crime Scene Team (CSI), and as a Latent Print Examiner will be sorely missed. Be-

fore his career in Alaska he was an officer in Georgia. Walter plans on spending time sailing and traveling in both Alaska and in the south.

**Kerrie Cathcart** has left the Forensic Laboratory to begin graduate class work in Criminal Justice at Marshall University.

She is already a graduate from there with an MS in Forensic Science and is now pursuing a more academic or administrative track in Law Enforcement. During Cathcart's three years with the Lab, she was a Criminalist II in the Latent Prints (**Crime Lab**, continued on page 27)

# Crime Lab,

continued from page 26



**Walter McFarlane retired after 12 years of service.**



**Kerrie Cathcart resigned from the Forensic Lab to begin graduate study in Criminal Justice.**

Section, a member of the Crime Scene Team, and an instructor for law enforcement classes. Quoting her supervisor and echoing her co-workers, "She will be greatly missed!" Kerrie will begin class this fall and is on her way to West Virginia. She will attend and present a paper at the International Association for Identification's annual meeting in St. Louis. The topic is on developments and concerns of DNA versus Latent evidence



**Maureen Smith resigned from the Crime Lab to accept a job with the Mesa, Arizona Police Department's Crime Scene Response Unit.**

sampling. We thank her for attending and representing Alaska at this gathering.

**Maureen Smith**, a Forensic Technician with the Evidence Section of the Laboratory, has decided to begin a new job with Mesa, Arizona's Police Department's Crime Scene Response Unit. Smith has functioned as an Evidence Technician and taught law enforcement classes. During her three years with the Lab, she has screened sexual assault kits for the Convicted Offender Database and prepared reagents and chemicals for the DNA section. She too was a member of the SCDL CSI team. We wish her well with the new endeavors.



**Juley Schuerman joined the Crime Lab as a Criminalist II.**

In May, **Juley Schuerman** has joined the staff of the SCDL as a Criminalist II. She has her B.S. in Biology from Barry University in Florida, worked with the Broward County Sheriff's Department Crime Laboratory and at a molecular lab in a medical center in Spokane, Washington. Her talents will be used to assist in the caseload of the DNA section.

ative Assistant for the Laboratory Supervisor, **Chris Beheim**. Prior to joining the SCDL, Ms. Cook was working for the Department of Transportation, Division of Rural Airport Leasing. She fills a huge gap in a vacant position that is critical to the flow and function of day-to-day activities of the SCDL. We are glad to have her aboard. ■

**Willie Cook** began employment with the Laboratory in July as an Administra-



**Willie Cook joined the Crime Lab as an Administrative Assistant to Chris Beheim.**

## George Taft Honored

On June 29, 2004, the Fraternal Order of Alaska State Troopers held a reception and dedication ceremony for **Mr. George Taft**. **Governor Frank Murkowski**, the State's First Lady, and local law enforcement executives attended and participated in the unveiling of **Ms. Karen Taylor's** "George Taft" bronze sculpture. The bust is mounted on a base of Alaska Jade and the pedestal is walnut with Alaska birch trim.

Mr. Taft and Ms. Taylor worked together in Forensics during the early 1980s at the Texas Department of Public Safety. Over this period, Mr. Taft encouraged Ms. Taylor towards Forensic Art and this subsequently became her career for 20 years. She created this sculptured in appreciation. She is a nationally known portrait artist and utilizes her talents and services to aid in the apprehension and conviction of criminal offenders as well as promoting the identity of unknown deceased persons. Ms. Taylor teaches at the FBI Academy, other law enforcement academies, universities, and medical schools throughout the United States and Canada. Her work has been featured on "America's Most Wanted", FOX, ABC, CBS, CNN,



**Forensic artist Karen Taylor posed with George Taft.**

Court TV, the Discovery Channel, and the History Channel.

The Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (SCDL) was created from initiatives of State Trooper **Director Colonel Tom Anderson**. Mr. Taft became the new facility's Laboratory Director and served until his retirement in 2003. From his efforts, the SCDL provides state of the art



**The statue honoring George Taft is housed at the Trooper Museum.**

forensic science support to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies through Alaska.

The FOAST Museum features displays on the history of SCDL and invites all to visit and view the sculptor which honors the efforts and accomplishments of Mr. Taft. ■

## In Other News

Retired Alaska State Trooper **Gordon Nelson**, 82, died August 19, 2004, of complications from Alzheimer's disease at Colony Manor Creekside Assisted Living Home in Wasilla.

He joined the Alaska Highway Patrol in 1951. He served for 21 years in the Patrol, the Alaska Territorial Police, the Alaska State Police and the Alaska State Troopers. He was stationed in Anchorage, Glennallen, Fairbanks, Palmer and Juneau and was one of a few to serve in all four forces. He was the first Colonel of the Alaska State Troopers while serving as director of technical services in Juneau in 1971. He retired in 1972, moving to Anchorage and later to Palmer/Wasilla.

## With Regret

In retirement, he wrote books that included "Lowbush Moose," "Smokehouse Bear," "Tired Wolf" and "Highbrow Cow," Alaska cookbooks with entertaining stories of his life in Alaska. He was an accomplished artist and enjoyed gardening and woodworking.

Memorial donations in Mr. Nelson's name may be made to the Mat-Su Alzheimer's Association.

**Raymond Henry Tremblay**, retired U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Special Agent in Charge, passed away in late August. His family has indicated Mr. Tremblay worked for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services as a Special Agent in Charge for 25 years, retiring in 1978. In 1978, he began

work with the DPS as Aircraft Section supervisor. He retired from DPS in 1983.

Mr. Tremblay was laid to rest at the Angelus Memorial Park in Anchorage. Since Mr. Tremblay had served as a Corporal in the U.S. Marines, the U.S. Marines presented the United States flag to the widow and family, and a representative of the Troopers presented the Alaska State flag.

**Al Pacheco**, retired Alaska State Trooper, passed away September 1, 2004, in Iron Mountain, Michigan. He began his career with the department with the Alaska State Police. Among his duty posts were Fairbanks, Juneau, Sitka, and Anchorage. When he retired, he was president of PSEA. ■



Project Assistant with Administrative Services division, Pat Burrows, retired in June 2004. She had been with the Department of Public Safety since 1976 when she was hired as a Radio Dispatcher II. Major Joe Masters acknowledged her years of dedication to DPS and her accomplishments with the department.



Eileen Williams works to hold back the tears as she receives warm goodbyes from Major Joe Masters and Captain Randy Hahn. DPS Supply was filled with well-wishers at a barbeque luncheon on June 18, William's last day with DPS. Williams and her family have relocated to San Diego.



Cathi Katsal, Grants Administrator II, retired in July 2004. Cathi had been with Department of Public Safety since June 1991; she had a total of 24 years of State service. Commissioner Bill Tandeske recognized her valuable contributions to the Department of Public Safety.

## Walter Lawton's Last Day Big Adventure

BY BOB DEGROOT, DPS SUPPLY

**Walter Lawton** was employed by DPS as a Storekeeper in DPS Supply from November 1977 through July 30, 2004.

Walt has been a long-time collector of DPS memorabilia (pictures, patches, etc.) so he has always had an interest in "police stuff". And he spent almost 27 years directly working with State Troopers and VPSOs outfitting them with their equipment and supplies so he certainly saw a wide range of "police stuff" over the years.

The idea for this special moment on Walt's last workday was from his co-worker, **Lou Butler** and endorsed by all of us in Supply. We all thought it would be a lot of fun for Walt and something he would remember for the rest of his life. Butler even called Walt's wife (**Christy Lawton**) in advance so she could have their neighbors and friends there on scene when Walt rode up in the Trooper car. **Trp. Terry Shephard** helped make Walt's last workday a memorable one.

So, he made a grand exit from Supply and a grand entrance into retirement... ■



Walter Lawton retired from the Department of Public Safety after almost 27 years of service to the State. Co-workers arranged for Lawton to retire "in style" with a ride home in (the front seat of) a patrol car. Trp. Terry Shephard assisted with this special request.

### *Inspirational Thoughts:*

- It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
- If you lend someone \$20, and never see them again, it was probably worth it.
- There are two theories to arguing with your boss. Neither one works.
- Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together. ■

# Monica's Fish

BY JEAN SHAINDLIN, PIO

Monica O'Keefe was lured into the annual salmon run with her creation of "Celtic Warrior" in the "Wild Salmon on Parade" event in Anchorage. Throughout the summer, O'Keefe's fish, along with other entries, decorated several locations throughout Anchorage. "Celtic Warrior" was on display near the fountain in Town Square.

During the summer, however, vandals...or perhaps a stray bear...attacked her fish and he was 'out of the running' so to speak, for several weeks while at the vet, er, taxidermist being repaired. When he was good as new, he joined the parade again for an appearance at the Alaska State Fair.

At the end of the season of salmon festivities, all of the salmon will make one final run to the Fish Fry and Buy dinner at the Anchorage Hilton which is a fund raiser for the Foster Grandparents and Senior Companion Programs of Alaska, the Anchorage Cultural Council, the Anchorage Museum of History and Art, and CampFire USA, Alaska Council. Take a look at the event website at: [www.anchorage.net/salmon/](http://www.anchorage.net/salmon/) ■



Monica O'Keefe joined in the annual salmon run event, "Wild Salmon on Parade". Her creation, Celtic Warrior, spent part of the summer on display in Town Square.



After a trip to the taxidermist, "Celtic Warrior's" head and tail were repaired and, with some fresh paint by O'Keefe, it was back in the 'running'.



Fourteen-year-old Monica Bologna is the youngest driver in her stock class on the North Star Speedway in the Valley. Last year she was involved in a head-on collision, at full speed, with a wall at Capitol Speedway and was "saved by the belt". This event helped her choose safety belt use as her personal cause. Recently, she asked permission to put a Click It Or Ticket message on her car #45. She explains her message and encourages safety belt use when she meets and greets her fans after each race and during special appearances. She has also been nominated for a Spirit of Youth Award. Ms. Bologna's father and brother are also racers. At times, she even competes against her father on the track.

*"Growing old is inevitable...growing up is an option."*

## DPS Dispatch Duties Transferred

Department of Public Safety Commissioner **Bill Tandeske** and Wasilla Mayor **Diane Keller** signed a contract in June effectively transferring all Department of Public Safety dispatch services for the Mat-Su Valley, Glennallen, Talkeetna, and Anchorage to the new City of Wasilla Police Department dispatch center. The contract took effect July 1, 2004.

Wasilla Police Department's new state-of-the-art dispatch center began service for their agency in January 2004. The agreement is a product of over six months of discussions between the department and Wasilla PD.

"This is an excellent example of combining operations that is mutually beneficial to both agencies," said Commissioner Tandeske. "Both Wasilla PD and the Department of Public Safety will realize annual operational cost savings while still getting the job done. Our constituents in the Mat-Su will continue to receive excel-

lent professional service from a center located in their area, staffed by dispatchers who live in their area."

Wasilla PD's was the third dispatch center providing service in the Mat-Su Valley. Palmer PD, Fire and Emergency Services has long had a dispatch center in Palmer and the DPS dispatch operations were housed on Fort Richardson. "By reducing the number of centers serving the same area, less public money will be spent maintaining duplicate equipment and providing duplicate service," said Tandeske. "We believe that these kinds of partnerships will grow in number as emergency service operations focus on interoperability of equipment and operations while wisely investing public dollars."

The State plans to close the Fort Richardson dispatch facility. The agreement is for five years with additional renewal clauses. ■



**Trp. Grant Miller was on hand for the "None for the Road" summer safety event sponsored by KASH Kountry Radio and MADD at the Dimond Center in Anchorage. During the event, KASH air personalities consumed measured amounts of alcohol followed by taking Breathalyzer and horizontal gaze nystagmus tests administered by Trp. Miller. They also attempted to drive a vehicle through an obstacle course marked off in the parking lot.**

## Our Dirty Little Secret

By **KEITH BETTINGER** ©

I'm only telling you this because you promised not to breathe a word of what I'm about to say.

It started off easy enough while I was a plainclothes cop assigned to street crime. Everyday was the same. Go to the local drug corner, jump out of the unmarked car, and turn the drug dealer upside down. If vials of crack, or bags of marijuana fell out of his pockets he became a guest at the gray bar hotel. It had nothing to do with illegal searches. His story was the drugs were lying on the ground our story was we saw him throw it on the ground. Who told the better story in court was all that counted, and we had better reputations

On the street we worked to satisfy our egos. With lots of arrests, we might make detective. We made overtime with arrests and court appearances. Almost every night we made a last minute collar. We were doing a pretty good job if I say so myself.

Then one night, **Jack** and I had plans. No overtime tonight. Tonight was Country Western night at Boots and Spurs, an out of the way boot stomping gin mill. We had met up with a "friend" of ours from patrol, **Wanda Malloy**, better known as Wicked Wanda. She said her sister was in town and the two of them would be there waiting for us when we got off duty.

We had half an hour to go. Soon it would be time to hit the shower, put on the aftershave, cowboy boots and Stetsons. Hopefully Wanda's sister would be as hot as Wanda.

We were making a pass through the 7-11 parking lot. Jack needed mouthwash for tonight.

On the side of the building was Willie Williams, one of our local talent doing a drug deal with one of our run down hookers.

We jumped out the car and grabbed them. They knew they were caught. We

could've locked the hooker up for possession, but Wanda was waiting and time was running out.

We yelled at her, "Are you buyin' or flyin'?" There were wings on her feet. She was gone.

That left us with **Willie**. Willie or Wanda? Simple choice. We ushered Willie behind the building, took his allotment of crack, and emptied it into the sewer of roaring water. The crack was gone, now Willie owed **Tony D.** his supplier for the crack that was swimming, and we were off to see Wanda. Let Willie try and explain how two cops threw his crack away. He'd have a hard time explaining that one.

The date was a bust. Wanda had a headache and her sister was one. Spending the night with Willie and the hooker would have been more productive, and we would have made overtime.

(**Our Dirty Little**, continued on page 32)



While on patrol in the Thorne Arm area, Trp. Jeremy Baum observed a deer having trouble swimming. He gave the deer a lift to dry land and reluctantly said farewell. See the complete story beginning on page 14.

## Our Dirty Little, continued from page 31

The next afternoon, Jack and I were parked in the railroad station parking lot, drinking medicinal coffee. We needed it to deal with the headaches we had from the night before. The hooker who caught a break, walked over to our car. She looked in and said, "Thanks for last night."

Jack looked over and replied, "I don't know what you're talking about." You never admit to anything, no matter how small it is.

She understood and nodded her appreciation and said, "Yeah, whatever. By the way, did you hear what happened to Willie last night?"

A bored "No" came from within the car in unison.

"He's dead."

"What? What happened?", two loud voices said stumbling over one another.

"Seems he came up short on cash last night and had no product left to show. Tony D made an example out of him." With that she turned and walked away.

We moved cautiously for a couple days. No heat came our way. Seems Willie's demise was going nowhere investigation wise, so we decided to use it to

our advantage. We still made as many arrests as we could to build up the overtime, but we also started to clean up the neighborhood in our underhanded way. It seems a lot of our pain in the a— drug dealers, who wouldn't live righteous lives, came up short when Tony D. came to collect.

The streets became safer. Kids played without fear of drive by shootings. Some drug dealers visited the morgue, the reasonable ones, our cells. Tony D. and the homicide detectives chatted with the judge about his business practices. His attitude bought him an all expense paid trip to a state sponsored resort. He never knew we paved the way for his vacation.

Jack and I took our retirement and went our separate ways. He's in Florida, I'm here. We don't talk. Life changes when you're no longer partners. Now our secret is yours. Keep it; your life might depend on it.

(This short story article is published by permission of the author. Keith Bettinger, 9669 Vista Crest Avenue, Las Vegas, NV. 89148; 702-795-8616; E-mail: [keithbett@cox.net](mailto:keithbett@cox.net). Editor.) ■

# THE DPS QUARTERLY

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