

The DPS Quarterly

WELCOME



A Department of Public Safety publication bringing professionalism and humanity together. FALL 2007



Residents of the Northwest Arctic Borough sing a welcoming song to visitors attending the Law Enforcement Conference in Kotzebue.

DPS PARTICIPATES IN KOTZEBUE CONFERENCE

BY BETH IPSEN, PIO

Commissioner Walt Monegan and the upper echelon of Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, the Division of Fire and Life Safety and the Alcohol Beverage Control Board traveled to Kotzebue Aug. 14-16 to participate in the Law Enforcement Conference.

The two-day conference addressed concerns with the Village Public Safety Officer program statewide and public safety and law enforcement in the Northwest Arctic Borough, which is governed out of Kotzebue.

The conference gave DPS, VPSO non-profit contractors and local citizens a chance to interact face-to-face and air out concerns regarding public safety.

Those from DPS were braced for a barrage of concerns from local residents, but instead were met mostly with positive remarks and a willingness to cooperate to strengthen public safety in the region, as well as the VPSO program across the state.

The fact that the commissioner personally made the trip was not lost on local residents.

"If he weren't committed to Rural Alaska, he wouldn't be here today," Borough Mayor Siikauraq Martha Whiting said during her opening remarks. Whiting has been in office just less than a year, but has pledged to address concerns with law enforcement in the region.

Commissioner Monegan gave opening remarks at the conference, handed out certificates and took time to do a radio interview with Sen. Donny Olson, D-Nome, and Rep. Reggie Joule, D-Kotzebue, while in Kotzebue.

Col. Audie Holloway, Col. Gary Folger, Maj. John Glick, Maj. Steve Bear, Capt. Steve Arlow and Steve Schreck, a fire training specialist with Fire Prevention also represented DPS at the conference. Arlow gave a presentation on C Detachment and Glick presented information regarding the VPSO program. The Northwest Arctic falls

within C Detachment, the largest detachment in the state.

During the trip to the Northwest Arctic, Holloway, Glick, Arlow, Sgt. Karl Main, supervisor of the Kotzebue post, and AWT pilot Sgt. Scott Quist went on a aerial tour of some of the villages in the area. The group landed in Shungnak where they looked at potential housing for a VPSO and talked to village residents.

The VPSO program was the main focus of the two-day event.

This program was developed in 1979 and implemented in 1981 to broadly train one person in all aspects of public safety – law enforcement, water safety, fire service, emergency medical service, search and rescue and village ordinances.

The program started with 52 positions

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Commissioner Walt Monegan, left, and Sen. Donny Olson, D-Nome, listen as Rep. Reggie Joule, D-Kotzebue, talks during a live radio show at KOTZ radio station in Kotzebue.

throughout the state and eventually expanded to as many as 125 at one time. However, due to budget cuts, that number reduced back down to 51. At the time of the conference, three of those positions were vacant.

In order for a village to field a VPSO, the village governmental entity has to agree to support the program by providing housing and office space with a phone line

In the Northwest Arctic Region, only two of the five VPSO positions are staffed, leaving troopers at the Kotzebue post to be the first line of law enforcement in 10 villages in the region. Kotzebue is served by its own police department.

One of the main concerns, besides finding people to fill the VPSOs slots, was tapping into federal money for the statewide program. Funding for the VPSOs originally comes from state legislature. From there, the money is given to the Department of Public Safety then passed on to the six non-profit regional corporations who manage the VPSOs in certain regions.

The Kodiak Area Native Association, or KANA, took over the VPSO program in the Northwest Arctic after the NANA Corp.-affiliated Manillaq Manpower closed its doors in 2004.

Other non-profits that manage the VPSOs are Kawarak Inc., Bristol Bay Native Association, Association of Village Councils presidents out of the Bethel region, Tanana Chief Conference for the Interior and the

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Aleutian-Pribilof Island Association. Four of the six non-profit contractors had representatives at the conference. The Copper River Native Association sent two representatives to gather information on how they can place VPSOs in some of the 22 villages within its region.

“Our costs have gone up and wages have increased, but our state appropriations for the VPSO program has remained virtually the same year after year for the last seven years,” said Jim Knope, VPSO coordinator for Tanana Chief Conference.

However, there was confusion at the conference about how to tap into the federal Indian Health Service's funds, something DPS has been told cannot be done due to strict guidelines.

“We want to have more VPSOs, we want to access that \$6 million. IHS keeps telling us no,” Holloway said. “If we can’t get the people and applicants, we can’t get the money ... We want to do this, just as bad as you do. It’s a problem with the rules that IHS has set.”

Knope said finding qualified applicants has become harder since 9/11 as more people

consider military duty as a more attractive option.

Alvin Jimmie Sr., VPSO coordinator for AVCP, explained VPSO’s job description as enforcing state and federal laws, report writing, emergency trauma treatment, assisting health aides and maintaining and organizing a fire department and its equipment. VPSOs also serve court documents, monitor probations and paroles, coordinate disaster response and most importantly, do community policing. It’s a tall order for one person that works 7.5 hours per day and 37.5 hours per week but is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“That expectation is so high for the VPSOs, they are overwhelmed,” Jimmie said.

According to a UAA Justice Center study released in 2000, the turnover rate for VPSOs is 36 percent per year, a much higher number than anywhere else in the public safety sector. The study lists stress, low pay, poor benefits, lack of equipment and a sense of alienation in a community as some of the causes of the high

(Conference, continued on page 3)



AWT Maj. Steve Bear listens as Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly President Walter Sampson talks to others in their group during the conference. Attendees broke into groups to come up with ideas for improving statewide law enforcement services in rural Alaska.



C Detachment Commander Capt. Steve Arlow gives a presentation on the largest detachment in the state.

Conference, cont. from page 2

turnover.

After the presentations, conference attendees broke into groups to come up with recommendations for improving statewide law enforcement services in rural Alaska.

Those attending the conference struggled with finding a way to solve the problem of VPSO retention, a major component in improving public safety in the Bush.

Lorretta Bullard of Kawarak Inc. was the first to give a presentation at the conference with an overview of the Alaska Rural Justice and Law Enforcement Commission report that was completed in 2006.

The commission was created by congress in 2004 to study four broad areas related to rural Alaska: law enforcement, judicial systems, alcohol importation and drug interdiction.

The commission used four workgroups of professionals, experts and officials working in the fields addressing those four broad areas. The commission took the information from the workgroups and came up with 100 suggestions to funnel into nine general recommendations.

For example, one recommendation was to persuade legislature to ban plastic bottles, making it harder to bootleg alcohol to rural Alaska, Bullard said.

Other possible solutions included broadening therapeutic efforts by putting long-term residential care facilities in rural hubs such as Kotzebue and greater use of tribal courts to address local problems.

According to Bullard, the commission believes the recommendations contained in the initial report can improve access to the justice system and in turn improve life in rural Alaska by supporting healthy families and communities.

Bullard said many of the suggestions the working groups made require changes to state law.

The report can be found at www.akjusticecommission.org

Doug Griffin, director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, gave a presentation toward the end of the two-day conference explaining a pilot program that will create community delivery sites in damp towns. Barrow, Fort Yukon and St. Mary's are operating the Community Delivery Sites that are controlled by the local governments.

Griffin described the ABC Board, and how the board's role will change from strictly dealing with alcohol licenses to regulating the sale of alcohol with Senate Bill 128. The bill would add a position to the five-member board. The bill intends to create some oversight into a program that allows people in rural Alaska to order from packaged stores. The bill creates a list of stipulations, such as limits on the amount of alcohol a person can order, that helps monitor the program and helps ensure the alcohol doesn't wind up in the hands of those who abuse alcohol.

The centers also use a database to maintain a person's name along with a person's alcoholic beverage buying habits and whether the resident has been court ordered to stay away from alcohol.

Lauren Rice, the legislative liaison to the commissioner, and Katie TePas, the program coordinator for state domestic violence



AST Col. Audie Holloway talks to a local girl during a trip to Shungnak.

training, also made the trip to Kotzebue for the conference. Beth Ipsen and Justin Freeman, from the Public Information Office, were there to record the conference on video and on paper. Freeman also went on the village tour.

In the end, people left the conference feeling bonds had been forged in an effort to work together to solve the difficult task of keeping people safe in rural Alaska. ■



Northwest Arctic Borough residents fill up their plates with a variety of local food including muktuk (bowhead whale) and sussauni (beluga whale) at a potluck put on at the end of the first day of the conference.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

BY WALT MONEGAN



Live to a code, Not to an image

Working in law enforcement for more than a few years, I have had many occasions to watch others in the performance of their assigned duties. Overall, I have been, and remain, proud to serve with selfless individuals who conduct themselves to a standard that has roots in the Golden Rule; to provide the level of service that they would like to receive. In fact, this is the expected (and delivered) norm, and that it is the news and complaint when we fail to meet that standard.

Whether you are a support staff or trooper, you were hired because of the traits, skills, and values that you brought to this

department. Recall the testing, background checks, and interviews you underwent to get hired. What was sought were those qualities – such as integrity, courage, and compassion to name a few – that are needed and expected in this field of public service.

There are no greater challenges that what we as a society face daily.

As first responders we stand in the ready, along with a host of others like EMS, firefighters, doctors and nurses, waiting to rush in and address and repair what human or natural tragedy can bring. This is done because it must be done, and you are the ones that have stepped up to do it.

What had brought you here is beyond personal financial needs or some desire of self-importance because, for what you are tasked with, we could neither pay nor give recognition enough to compensate you for what you see and do.

Certainly for some of you there is personal danger in your work, but for all of you, there is a risk that can erode the public trust and respect for you and our organization. This danger lies where work seemingly becomes so repetitive, it becomes routine and routine leads to compliancy and shortcuts. Nature hates a void, so seemingly filling in for the time and effort “saved”

in some of these shortcuts is the breeding ground for personal risk and complaints.

I am asking that you remember why you sought work here and to periodically reach inside and dust off those internal values that got you hired. Know that each one of you is a reflection of every one of us and of our profession. Public expectations are high for all of us, and they should be. You all are collectively charged with the safety of everyone in our state. A pretty daunting responsibility, but by virtue of working here, you have been measured and determined to be up to the task. I may not know each of you personally, but I know all of you professionally, and I and your supervisors believe in you.

So please remember that though this next citizen contact may be a repeat of the last, it is new and personal for the citizen you are meeting. Act with the professionalism and compassion that you brought to this team, and although you may not ultimately be able to undo the havoc wrecked upon this citizen's life, you will be remembered for your attempt.

For you personally and all of us professionally, make it a good memory.

Be safe-
-Walt ■



Commissioner Walt Monegan and Executive Secretary Cassandra Byrne serve up hamburgers with a smile during the Governor's Picnic in Anchorage on July 28.

DPS BOOTH WINS MOST IMPROVED AT FAIR

BY BETH IPSEN, PIO

When tackling the Department of Public Safety booth at the 2007 Alaska State Fair in Palmer, those involved wanted to change as many things as possible from what has existed for the past 20 years.

The hard work and change paid off as the booth garnered the Most Improved Award.

The award came from a variety of improvements to the booth.

Jaime Kirkmeyer, a public safety technician with AWT in Palmer, replaced the crumbling deck with one that many eyed for their own back yard.

Workers Lt. Barry Wilson, Capt. Hans Brinke, Information Officer Megan Peters and Peters' friend, Anne Johnson, and I worked a few days in the sun painting the outside of the booth trooper colors starry night (light blue) with a trim of phantom blue (dark blue), golden sun (yellow) and flaming sword (red). I should mention we also did a little practice painting on each other once in a while. The red stripe down the seat of Peters' jeans took a week's worth of washing to fade.

The idea to paint the trim to resemble the trooper blue pants with the yellow and red stripes came from a combination of both Wilson's and Brinke's minds.

Peters and I picked the colors, despite Peters' hesitation with using a color called "flaming sword."

Other improved changes were a newer, nicer backdrop to the recruitment display and a bold sign that replaced the old wooden sign affixed to the front of the booth.

The sign, matched with a pair of large DPS/AST patch signs, gave the booth a new eye-catching look.

The biggest attractor – and a change that rivaled the new paint job – was the addition of the Cadillac Escalade in front of the booth.

This recruitment tool got a lot of attention, especially when the sound system rattled a neighboring pottery booth.

Justin Freeman of the Public Information Office did the dynamic designing for the logos printed on T-shirts for those working the booth.

AWT B Detachment Commander Lt. Troy Oleck and his Administrative Clerk Audrey Ayay-Dehart donated some "dead things" to display at the booth, including Mr. Mink, who many booth workers used to try to coax a smile out of children while taking their photos.

I want to especially thank all the people who signed up to work the booth. You made my job of doing some of the coordinating for the booth easier, especially when I heard few complaints, but rather got many positive responses from people because working the fair is actually enjoyable.

I found this out personally by working four nights making and handing out the Safety Bear Club Cards to fairgoers, many of whom flock to the booth every year for the cards.

Director of Administrative Services Dan Spencer signed up for a shift with me while in Anchorage from Juneau for a series of budget meetings.

However, if it weren't for the efforts of Mahlon Greene, who works in public education for the newly named Division of Fire and Life Safety, I don't believe the booth would have functioned. Greene worked tirelessly and was a constant fixture at the booth, even sleeping in his RV parked in back on the weekends. He did this with a smile on his face even after spending days prior to the fair opening putting on fire prevention classes to other vendors.

Jennifer Gordon, from recruitment, was also a regular face at



(Fair, continued on page 25)



Fairgoers stop to talk or check out the Cadillac Escalade, a new edition to the improved Department of Public Safety fair booth.



Anne Johnson, Lt. Barry Wilson and PIO Megan Peters spend a sunny Friday painting the DPS fair booth before the start of the State Fair.

Fair, continued from page 4

the booth throughout the fair.

Village Public Safety Officers Mike Nemeth (Nelson Lagoon), Charlie Hartzell (Angoon), George “Skip” Robinson (Tanana) and Sgt. Roy Jones Jr. (Larson Bay) took turns providing an invaluable presence at the booth while promoting the VPSO program. Court Services Officer Julie-Dee Sharkey led the CSOs’ charge to help out the uniformed presence. Rather than spending the day at the headquarters office, many uniformed troopers spent the day mingling among fairgoers in front of the booth.

I thank you all for stepping forward to help make the fair this year a success. Even the weather cooperated.

There were some glitches throughout the fair, such as security delaying uniformed troopers on their way in to work the booth, and computer blips when the booth got busy. Hopefully, those will be smoothed out by next year.

Despite the most improved award, those of us who diligently worked on the preparation for the booth are not going to sit on our laurels and will put our heads together to further improve the booth before next year.

Anyone with suggestions can contact me at my office at 269-5656 or email at elizabeth.ipsen@alaska.gov. ■



Lt. Jeff Laughlin, left, and Lt. Barry Wilson, hold up signs for inspection while putting on the finishing touches to the booth before the start of the State Fair in Palmer.



Mahlon Greene, who works in public education for the newly named Division of Fire and Life Safety, teaches a young fairgoer about fire safety.



Safety Bear, aka Soldotna Radio Dispatcher Stacey Day, takes a minute to visit with her children, Aubree, left, and Paige, who were attending the State Fair on Kids Day, Aug. 24.

PROMOTIONS

AST Col. Audie Holloway is pleased to announce the following promotions:

- **Sgt. Ron Wall**, supervisor of the Fairbanks unit of the Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement, to lieutenant, Deputy Commander, D Detachment, Fairbanks, effective Aug. 1, 2007.

Wall began his career with the Alaska State Troopers in September 1990 at the Academy in Sitka. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to D Detachment, Fairbanks patrol. In February 1995, he transferred to Homer Post, E Detachment. In August 1997, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to Girdwood Post. In March 1998, he transferred to Fairbanks Post, D Detachment. During the past nine years in Fairbanks, Sergeant Wall has been a patrol shift supervisor, rural unit supervisor, investigations unit supervisor, and alcohol and narcotics unit supervisor.

Wall was E Detachment's Trooper of the Year in 1997. He was awarded a Commendation for Honorable Service in 1991.

- **Trooper Chris Hill** has been selected to be a shift supervisor at B Detachment, Mat-Su Post. Trooper Hill began his law enforcement career with the Kodiak Police Department in June 1996. In September 1996, he was hired as an Alaska State Trooper and was assigned to B Detachment, Palmer Post. In January, 1999, Trooper Hill was transferred to C Detachment, Kodiak Post. In July 2006, Trooper Hill transferred back to B Detachment, Palmer Post.

- Trooper Hill has a bachelor's degree (cum laude) in Law and Justice from Central Washington University. He served for over nine years in the Washington Army National Guard as a cavalry scout and later as a pilot flying Chinook and Cobra helicopters. Trooper Hill has his APSC instructor certificate and is an experienced field training officer.

- **Trooper Derek Loop** has been selected to be a shift supervisor at E Detachment, Soldotna Post. Trooper Loop began his law enforcement career with the Alaska State Troopers in August

2002, at the Academy in Sitka. After graduating from the Academy, he was assigned to D Detachment, Fairbanks Post. In April 2005, he was transferred to E Detachment, Homer Post (now called Anchor Point Post).

Loop served four years as an infantryman in the U.S. Marine Corps.

- **Trooper Teague Widmier** has been selected to be a patrol supervisor at C Detachment, Bethel Post. Trooper Widmier began his law enforcement career with the Sitka Police Department in July 1993. He served there as a patrol officer and investigator. In November 1999, he was hired as an Alaska State Trooper and was assigned to D Detachment, Fairbanks Post. In November 2000, Trooper Widmier was reassigned to ABADE's Fairbanks Unit as an investigator. In December 2003, he was reassigned to D Detachment, Fairbanks Post. In October 2004, Trooper Widmier transferred to C Detachment, Bethel Post.

Trooper Widmier has his APSC instructor certificate. He was also C Detachment's 2006 Trooper of the Year.

- **Investigator Leonard Wallner, Jr.** has been selected to be the VPSO Training Coordinator at C Detachment, Anchorage Post. Investigator Wallner began his law enforcement career as a reserve officer with the Palmer Police Department in January 1990. In January 1991, he was hired as an Alaska State Trooper and was assigned to B Detachment, Palmer Post. In February 1995, Investigator Wallner was transferred to C Detachment, St. Mary's Post. In February 1997, Investigator Wallner transferred back to B Detachment, Palmer Post. In December 1998, he was reassigned to B Detachment's General Investigations Unit (later named ABI's Mat-Su Unit) as an investigator.

Investigator Wallner spent six years in the US Air Force, most of that time working as a linguist at the National Security Agency.

Investigator Wallner was also B Detachment's 2002 Trooper of the Year.

- **Trooper Chad Goeden** has been selected for promotion to sergeant as a shift supervisor at D Detachment,

Fairbanks Post.

Trooper Goeden began his law enforcement career at the DPS Training Academy in August 1994, as a self-pay student. In the fall of 1995, he was hired by the Tanana Police Department where he worked as the sole officer and chief. In September 1996, Goeden was hired by AST and began field training at B Detachment, Palmer Post. In April 1999, Goeden transferred to E Detachment, Ninilchik Post. In November 2001, Trooper Goeden transferred to C Detachment, Nome Post. In November 2003, Goeden was promoted to corporal and transferred to the DPS Training Academy. In May 2007, Goeden transferred to D Detachment, Fairbanks Post.

Trooper Goeden has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and was the honor graduate of his ALET class. He has served as an FTO and has been a member of each of the department's three SERT units. He is also an APSC breath test supervisor/instructor.

Colonel Gary Folger is pleased to announce the following promotion:

- **Trooper Robin Morrisett**, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, E Detachment, Cordova Post to Sergeant, AWT, Cordova Post effective Aug. 1, 2007.

Morrisett began his career with the Department of Public Safety as a Seasonal Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officer May 2, 1994 in Kodiak. He transferred to Palmer May 1995 and continued to work as a seasonal until July 6, 1999 when he was promoted to State Trooper Recruit.

Upon completion of the Academy, Trooper Morrisett was stationed in Kodiak on January 3, 2000. August 1, 2000 he was promoted to State Trooper. He then transferred to Dutch Harbor in December 2001 where he served aboard the P/V Stimson until his transfer to Cordova in November, 2004.

Colonels Holloway and Folger ask that you join them in congratulating Morrisett, Goeden, Wall, Hill, Loop, Widmier and Wallner on their promotions and wish them well in their new assignments. ■

BADGE PINNINGS



Newly promoted troopers ABI Deputy Commander Lt. Dave Tugman, Special Projects Coordinator Lt. Kathy “Kat” Peterson of Division Operations and Supervisor of Computer and Financial Crimes Sgt. Derek DeGraff during their badge pinning ceremony at headquarters on July 16.



(Pictured at left) Lt. Ron Wall, newly promoted deputy commander of D Detachment, gets his lieutenant badge pinned on by his wife, Amanda, during a ceremony in August.

(Pictured at right) Lt. Barry Wilson of Division Operations at Headquarters gets his new lieutenant badge pinned on by his wife, Elizabeth, at a ceremony July 27.



SUCCESSFUL BIDS

AST Col. Audie Holloway is pleased to announce the following successful bidders:

- **Trooper Vanessa Meade**, Soldotna, E Detachment AST, was the successful bidder for Iliamna, C Detachment AST
- **Trooper Joey Beaudoin**, Bethel, C Detachment AST, was the successful bidder for Ketchikan, A Detachment AST
- **Trooper Aaron Mobley**, Fairbanks,

D Detachment AST, was the successful bidder for Klawock, A Detachment AST

AWT Col. Gary Folger is pleased to announce the following successful bidders:

- **Trooper Mike Peltier**, Palmer, B Detachment AST, was the successful bidder for Glennallen, B Detachment AWT effective May 1, 2008.
- **Trooper Shannon Fore**, Mat-Su West, ABI AST, was the successful bidder

for Anchorage WIU, AWT effective Nov. 16, 2007.

- **Trooper John “Shane” Stevenson**, Juneau A Detachment, Governor Security, was the successful bidder for Soldotna, E Detachment AWT, effective Nov. 16, 2007.

- **Trooper Eric Hinton**, Palmer, B Detachment AST, was the successful bidder for, Dutch Harbor, C Detachment AWT, effective May 1, 2008.

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

New Chief Investigator



Bob Beasley

Former Unalaska Department of Public Safety Director, **Bob Beasley**, has taken over the helm of Investigations Supervisor for the Department of Public Safety's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, replacing Bill Roche who retired this past June.

Bob is a well known figure among

the Alaska law enforcement community, having served in a variety of law enforcement capacities throughout the past twenty years. He holds an Advanced Police Officer certificate from APSC, and is a graduate of the 194th Session, FBI National Academy. ■

SCIENTIFIC CRIME DETECTION LABORATORY

BY JOHN GIACALONE

On June 25, Gov. Sarah Palin appeared outside the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory to sign into law four pieces of legislation which are designed to increase the safety of Alaskans.

The bills allow DNA samples to be collected from adults arrested for felonies (House Bill 90), reduce the gap in statutes involving underage drinking (House Bill 118), require ankle bracelets to be worn by gang members on probation (House Bill 133) and strengthen local option alcohol laws (House Bill 128).

Karen Campbell, the mother of murdered victim Bonnie Craig, is a strong advocate for House Bill 90 and was in attendance during the bill's signing.

It was through the use of DNA and the CODIS data base that a suspect in the 12-year old "cold case" murder was developed.

In August, the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory organized a week long workshop on Bloodstain Pattern Analysis.

Tom Bevel, a retired captain from the Oklahoma Police Department was the instructor of the course which was attended by 24 students from various agencies around the state as well as from Hawaii, Oregon and Utah.

Bevel has acted as an expert in bloodstain analysis and crime scene reconstruction for many high profile cases both in the U.S. and internationally. He is a co-author of a text book that highlights



Rep. Bob Buch, D-Anchorage, speaks at the podium as Gov. Sarah Palin signs legislation concerning public safety outside the Crime Lab.



Karen Campbell and Commissioner Walt Monegan talk after the ceremony. Campbell is the mother of murdered victim Bonnie Craig and was a strong advocate for House Bill 90.



AST student Inv. Eric Burroughs examines projected blood spatter (above) and documents stain patterns (at right).



Students discussing experiment results

Lab, continued from page 8

the analysis of blood spatter patterns during crime scene reconstruction and investigation.

The course consisted of classroom lecture and instruction along with hands on experiments.

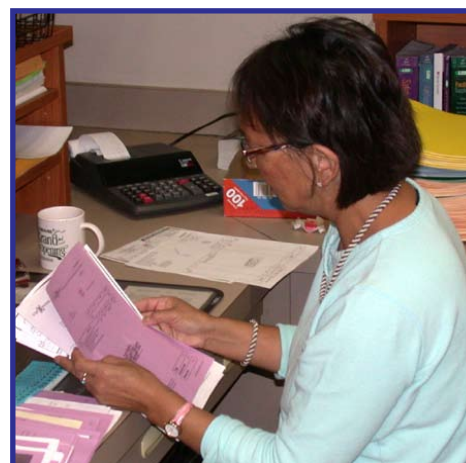
On the last day two mock scenes were created and the students were tasked with reconstructing and interpreting the evidence using the knowledge and experience they gained. The information learned from this course will be valuable in future crime scene investigations.

Bertha Angnabooguk joined the staff of the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory

in August as an Administrative Clerk III.

She has worked at the DOT/Highway Construction unit, as well as for Fish and Game/Division of Subsistence over the past 10 years. Bertha was born in Wales, lived in Nome where she attended Northwest Community College and has been in Anchorage for over 25 years.

Bertha replaces Loraine Eaton who transferred to the Department of Labor. We wish Loraine the best at her new job and welcome Bertha and her experience to the Laboratory. ■



Bertha Angnabooguk processes invoices for Laboratory supplies.

ALASKA BUREAU OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

BY SGT. CHRIS THOMPSON

On June 26, seven Alaska State Trooper investigators assigned to the Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement's Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team became the first state law enforcement officers deputized as Postal Inspectors in the United States.

This deputation was the culmination of a multiyear effort to provide investigators with the authority to speed up investigations involving the shipment of illegal drugs and alcohol to Western Alaska via the U.S. Postal Service.

These investigators now have limited authority to inspect postal parcels, pull items out of the mail stream for investigative purposes and apply for federal search warrants where applicable.

The investigators will continue to work closely with the Postal Inspectors assigned to the Anchorage Postal Inspection Service Office, and are now armed with yet another



means to curb the flow of illegal alcohol to Western Alaska.

ABADE would like to thank

Supervisory Postal Inspector April Hindin of the Anchorage Postal Inspection Service Office who made this process possible.

YOUR STATEWIDE CANINE TEAMS

BY TRP. JOSEPH HAZELAAR

The Alaska State Troopers Canine Program is in the midst of a busy 2007.

In July of this year we trained six new canine teams. At the end of the nine-week canine academy we certified three AST canine teams and three teams for other agencies.

The dual-purpose teams were **Trp. Pat Nelson** and **K9 Roelle** assigned to AST Palmer patrol with, **Trp. Greg Pealater** and **K9 Anchor** assigned to AST Anchor Point patrol, Officer Mark Hake and K9 Justice of the Sitka Police Department and Officer Aaron Turnage and K9 Chevron from the Kenai Police Department. Leaving Officer Bev Moore and K9 Daisy of the Fairbanks International Airport Police and **Inv. Joseph Hazelaar** and **K9 Duncan** assigned to the Alaska Interdiction Task Force as the single-purpose scent detection teams.

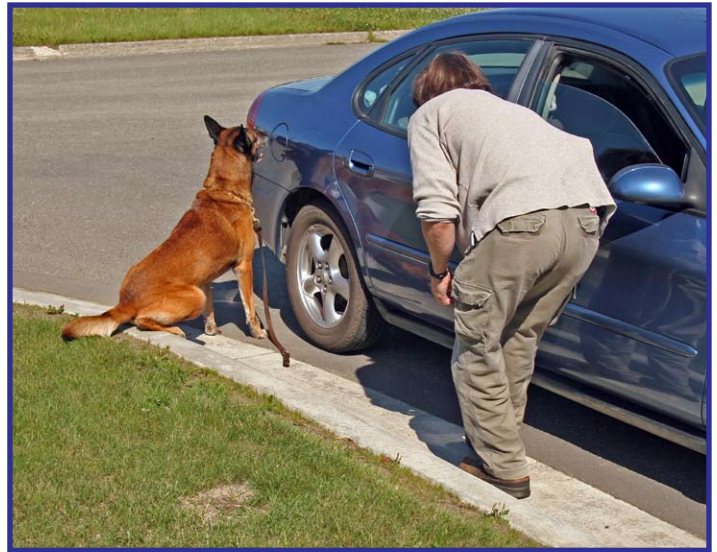
The AST teams were cut loose in July to join the other AST canine teams of **Inv. Jess Carson** and **K9 Kilo** assigned to Bethel WAANT, **Trp. Aaron Mobley** and **K9 Yukon** now assigned to the AST Klawock Post and **Inv. Rick Pawlak** and **K9 Custa** assigned to the Alaska Interdiction Task Force.

Thus far in 2007 these teams have been instrumental in the seizure of the following:

- 5,166.9 grams of cocaine
- 67.8 grams of heroin
- 1,128.2 grams of methamphetamine
- 40,951.9 grams of marijuana
- 763 pills of ecstasy
- 262 grams of illegal mushrooms

Forfeited with the above seizures were eight vehicles and \$589,749 of drug dealers' currency.

The canine teams have been active in assisting patrol through tracking dangerous suspects, searching burglarized buildings, and providing countless hours of canine presence for other troopers safety.



Drug-detection dog Custa "hits" on a baggie of drugs hidden inside the gas compartment of a car and waits for a reward from his handler, Inv. Rick Pawlack, during a demonstration for media on Aug. 11.

The combination of canine patrol applications and detector canine applications resulted in 51 felony arrest and 19 misdemeanors arrests.

The dedication and hard work demonstrated through these statistics is noteworthy. These teams represent the Alaska State Troopers well and in doing so have added another tool to our Alaska State Trooper tool belt, while also acting as OICs and FTOs.

Your commitment to the mission of the Alaska State Troopers has not gone unnoticed. Keep up the good work and stay safe. ■



Drug-detection dogs Duncan, on left, and Custa sniff out drugs purposefully hidden in the AST Public Information Office's vehicle during a demonstration.



DETACHMENT DISPATCH: NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE



A Detachment News

Arrivals and departures

Ketchikan AWT PST **Jessie McCarron** and his wife, Sarah, and young daughter Maya, welcomed a new addition to the family on August 18. Sophie Adeline McCarron was born at 7 p.m. and weighed an even 8 pounds. She was 20.5 inches long. All family members are doing well. Congratulations McCarron's.



AWT PST **Jessie McCarron** and his wife, **Sarah**, welcomed newborn daughter, **Sophie Adeline McCarron**, on Aug. 18.

M replaces K

Inv. John M. Brown and his wife Mary arrived in Ketchikan from Kotzebue to report for duty on Sept. 1. He replaces John K. Brown who was promoted to sergeant. and transferred to Klawock Post in August. Welcome to the John M. Brown's and we miss you John K. Brown family.

work at the Ketchikan Communications Center on Aug. 13 after a 13-month absence. We are all very happy to have her back with us in dispatch.

Trp. James Kimura, previously assigned to Palmer Post, arrived in Ketchikan reporting for duty on Aug. 1. Welcome Trooper Kimura, we needed another DUI King.

Milestones

RDII Tiana Walkowsky returned to

Capt. Kurt Ludwig and his wife, Sue, recently celebrated their 25 wedding anniversary. Their anniversary gift was learning they are going to have their first

granddaughter in the not so distant future. Congrats to Grandpa Kurt and Grandma Sue.

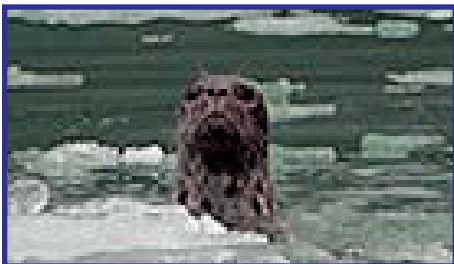
Miscellaneous

As many of you know, Lacey Dunn, daughter of **RDIII Shelly Dunn**, Ketchikan Post, was critically injured in a car accident on May 20 while attending college in Oregon. Shelly is very pleased to report Lacey is doing just great. Her neck fracture has healed and her halo was removed in August. There are more surgeries in the future, but Shelly is confident Lacey will return to college full time in Fall 2008. A huge thank you goes out to DPS family and friends for your support and prayers during this very difficult time for the Dunn family.

Klawock **ACH Ray Howard** and his wife Karen would like to thank all DPS personnel who donated leave to Ray during his serious illness last spring and early summer. Ray returned to work in June and continues to feel better everyday.



This seal patiently sits on a floating chunk of ice to let boaters take photographs while its companions dove off into waters for safety.



A seal pops up out of the water to look at boaters taking photos of wildlife at LaConte Glacier outside Petersburg.



A female sea lion bellows a warning to boaters while her companions rest on a buoy at the base of the Wrangell Narrows. PIO Beth Ipsen took these photos of wildlife during a visit to Petersburg in September.

B Detachment News

PALMER/MAT-SU WEST POST

BY ROMINA MANEVAL



Gov. Sarah Palin and the AST State Fair enforcement team in Palmer.

NEW ARRIVALS

Please join us in congratulating **Trp. Recruit Scott Bartlett** and family on the birth of their first born child. Scott Henry Bartlett was born 7/24/07 at 6:58 a.m. on July 24. He weighed 9 pounds 11.8 ounces and measured 21-1/2 inches long. Big Boy! Mom and baby are doing well.

GOODBYES AND HELLOS

Glennallen Post said goodbye to **Trp. Ronnie Simmons** who transferred to Mat-Su West Post and hello to **Trp. Elizabeth Haddad** who transferred from Soldotna Post also recently back from one year military leave in Iraq.

Talkeetna Post said goodbye to **Trp. David Bower** who transferred to Palmer Post and hello to **Trp. Shayne Calt** who transferred from Mat-Su West.

Mat-Su West said goodbye to **Trp. James Kimura** who transferred to Ketchikan Post and **Trp. Benjamin Mank** who transferred to Kotzebue Post.

Palmer Post said goodbye to **Trp. Christopher Long** who transferred to Palmer ABI, **Trp. Aaron Meyer** who transferred to Kotzebue Post and **Trp.**



Col. Audie Holloway, far right, and **Maj. Matt Leveque**, far left, dine with trooper recruits, from left to right, **Scott Bartlett**, **Michael Carpenter** and **Jimmy Lindberg** at the B Detachment Headquarters picnic in Palmer on Aug. 17.

Howard Peterson who transferred to Girdwood Post.

B Detachment would also like to extend a welcome to trooper recruits **Scott Bartlett**, **Michael Carpenter** and **Jimmy Lindberg**, who arrived from the Training Academy in Sitka.

Palmer Post also said goodbye to Administrative Clerk II, **Hilary Schwaderer** who is leaving the Department of Public

Safety and will be working for the Palmer Police Dispatch. Palmer Post welcomes Administrative Clerk II, **Belinda Bohanan** who is transferring from Palmer Judicial Services.

TROOPER SPOTLIGHT

B Detachment commander **Capt. Dennis Casanovas** celebrated 30 years with the Alaska State Troopers on July 11.

In this Quarterly Edition, B Detachment would like to recognize **Trp. David Bower**.

Bower brings years of experience to B Detachment as a trained investigator, Breath and Alcohol Supervisor, Radar Instructor, Motor Officer, DRE, and FTO.

Bower has been in law enforcement for 31 years. He attended his first academy in 1976 to become an officer for Lavern, Minnesota Police Department and Wadena, Minnesota Police Department before he became an Alaskan.

Minnesotans tend to have migrated to Alaska for several reasons. Bower first came to Alaska "On a dare" in 1989...not necessarily a "Dare Devil" but close. He

(Mat-Su, continued on page 14)

Mat-Su, continued from page 13

went to work with North Slope Borough, Department of Public Safety, now the North Slope Borough Police Department.

After that he provided law enforcement for Petersburg Police Department in 1993 and in 1996 for Bethel Police Department as an Investigator. He was promoted to sergeant and served until 2002 when he came to Department of Public Safety.

Bower has been married to his lovely wife, Janette, for two years. Bower and his wife met in church when he was at Fairbanks Post and Janette was and is currently the Palmer City Clerk. Bower has since made his way down from Fairbanks via Talkeetna AST and now to Palmer. Bower has a combined family of eight children and two grandchildren – all live here in Mat-Su Valley.

Bower's long-term goal involves retiring from law enforcement entirely, ending in Palmer with AST. His plan is to become a farmer in beautiful Palmer where he plans to grow a "fine" tomato, drive a tractor and own horses.

Bower is also recognized for his plethora of outstanding haircuts.

TIS THE VALLEY

A business owner of a tool rental company reported to **Trp. Scott Ide** that sometime in the past several months an unknown thief must have stolen a welder from his tool rental company as it came up missing during an inventory. The thief is believed to have taken the welder 200 yards away and pawned it at an adjacent pawn shop.

The interesting twist is the owner of the tool rental company is also the owner of the pawn shop. So, he paid the thief for his own stolen property. ■



Col. Audie Holloway shakes the hand of newly promoted sergeant Chris Hill's hand during Hill's pinning ceremony at the picnic Aug. 17.



Maj. Matt Leveque presents Lt. Dave Tracey a pin and certificate for 10-years of service.



Col. Audie Holloway presents CSO Doug Packa with a 20-year-service pin and certificate.



Col. Audie Holloway at the B Detachment headquarter's picnic.



ACII Tami Gilligan is ready to receive tips before diving in her duties as fry cook



Gov. Sarah Palin address those charged with State Fair Enforcement at the B Detachment Headquarters in Palmer.

GLENNALLEN POST

BY JANE FLYGSTAD

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

Summertime means parades - Glennallen Troopers took part in the annual 4th of July parade. **Trp. Josh Heinbaugh** and his father Kim led the event in a patrol car and **Trp. Nathan Duce** and Administrative Clerk III **Jane Flygstad** brought up the rear. **Sgt. Duane Stone** was in charge of traffic control at the parade end. It's safe to say that all the kids lining the street got plenty of candy.

FIREWEED 400 BICYCLE RACE

Trp. Nathan Duce helped the organizers of the Fireweed 400 bicycle race by briefing the racers on the traffic laws they must obey during the race. **Trp. Josh Heinbaugh** and TDY **Trp. Jesse Darby** put in some traffic overtime to make sure the roadway between Sheep Mountain Lodge and Valdez stayed safe for both motorists and bicyclists.

CRISIS INTERVENTION

Sgt. Duane Stone participated in the Prince William Sound Community College Crisis Intervention Training Seminar at their Glennallen campus. He spoke about



Glennallen Troopers took part in the annual 4th of July parade. **Trp. Josh Heinbaugh** and his father, **Kim**, led the event in a patrol car and **Trp. Nathan Duce** and Administrative Clerk III **Jane Flygstad** brought up the rear.

law enforcement's role with the victims of violence and children's advocacy groups. **Katie Tepas**, the program coordinator for Domestic Violence Training, from

Anchorage Headquarter's also spoke at the event. The seminar was attended by advocates for victims of violence personnel, volunteers and the general public. ■

TALKEETNA POST

BY MARIE RICHTER

FIRE AT SUSITNA VALLEY SCHOOL

On June 5, at approximately 1919 hours the school that serves the communities of Willow, Talkeetna and Trapper Creek burned to the ground. This fire created a huge loss for these three small communities.

The 35-year-old building, which was undergoing roofing renovation, left more than 185 students with no where to start the upcoming school year. The fire brought in fire fighters from locations as far away as Chugiak to help get the fire under control. They fought the blaze all night and into the next morning. The community was just devastated. The fire caused more than \$13 million in damage and loss.

Trp. Andrew Adams was the first trooper on the scene and provided pictures to the local news crews and newspaper reporters.

The State Fire Marshalls assisted **Adams** with the investigation. The cause of the fire has been left as undetermined.

The school has now been relocated directly across the parks highway at the Upper



It's not a Western, but rather, from left, ACIII **Marie Richter**, troopers **Andrew Adams**, **Jacob Covey**, **David Bower**, **Sgt. Walter Blajeski** and **John Ostoj** from the Talkeetna post. The photo was taken before **Bower** transferred to the Valley.

Susitna Senior Center. The students will be attending school in portable buildings that have been moved to the site. The community is now satisfied that the kids will still be able

to attend school close to home. Plans are already under way for the construction of the new school, which will be a huge asset to these three small communities. ■

C Detachment News



Roxanne Sheets won a trip to Anchorage for her family with her photo of her husband, Sgt. Nathan Sheets, fishing in Aniak with a boat and aircraft in the background.



Trp. Lucus Alterpeter won third place for his black and white winter photo of a frozen grader and the village of Newtok in the background.

This summer marked the first C Detachment photo contest which allowed troopers and their families to submit photos of troopers and their families doing extracurricular activities within the Western Alaska region.

First prize and a trip for the family to Anchorage on the Caravan goes to **Roxanne Sheets** for her photo of her husband, **Sgt. Nathan Sheets**, fishing in Aniak with a boat and aircraft in the background. We have AWT checking on the license status of Sgt. Sheets at this time.

Kelly Dunford won second and her choice of sweatshirts at the FOAST Museum for her photo of sunset on the tundra.

Trp. Lucus Alterpeter won third place for his black and white winter photo of a frozen grader and the village of Newtok in the background.

Thanks again to all who submitted photographs and we hope to have more entries next year.

C Detachment proved to be a busy region this quarter with the Western Alaska Law Enforcement summit in Kotzebue which was coordinated by the Northwest Arctic Borough and the Department of Public Safety. The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner attended the two day summit with Col. Audie Holloway, Col. Gary Folger, Maj. Steve Bear, Maj. John Glick and Capt. Steve Arlow.

The summit provided community representatives the opportunity to ask questions regarding the VPSO program and enforcement efforts within rural Alaska. Speakers fielded questions regarding some of the growing concerns and issues within the region and participated in work sessions to identify community strengths and resources to help address the growing problem areas.

BETHEL

Congratulations to **Trp. Teague Widmier** for his promotion to sergeant. Climatologists have reported that hell has officially frozen over.

Bethel is preparing to say good bye to **Trp. Terry Tuckwood** as he prepares to transfer to St. Mary's.

DILLINGHAM

(C Detachment, continued on page 17)

Troopers flew to King Salmon in June for lunch and to wish **Trp. John Holm** farewell and good luck after he transferred to Dutch Harbor AWT after seven years at the King Salmon AST Post.

KOTZEBUE

The Kotzebue Post said good bye to **Inv. John Brown** and Administrative Clerk **Mary Brown**, who departed for Ketchikan. Mary has taken a position with Juvenile Probation at the Ketchikan Juvenile Detention Center.

The Kotzebue Post is looking forward to the arrival of **Trp. Ben Mank** and **Trp. Aaron Meyer** who are arriving from the Valley with their families.

The Kotzebue Post inaugurated their 19-foot Thunder Jet, "Miss Behavin" this month with a patrol of the Kotzebue area.

The inboard V-8 vessel drew attention from community residents as it patrolled through the water ways. It is expected to make multiple trips to villages to assist with alcohol interdictions to the local option communities, boating safety and to ultimately provide a unique and enjoyable patrol option.

A booster seat that complies with all OSHA and state guidelines has been ordered for the Kotzebue Alaska Wildlife Trooper to aid him in seeing over the console. The piece of equipment is similar to the T.H.A.D. device utilized by vertically challenged Academy Staff in Sitka.

NOME

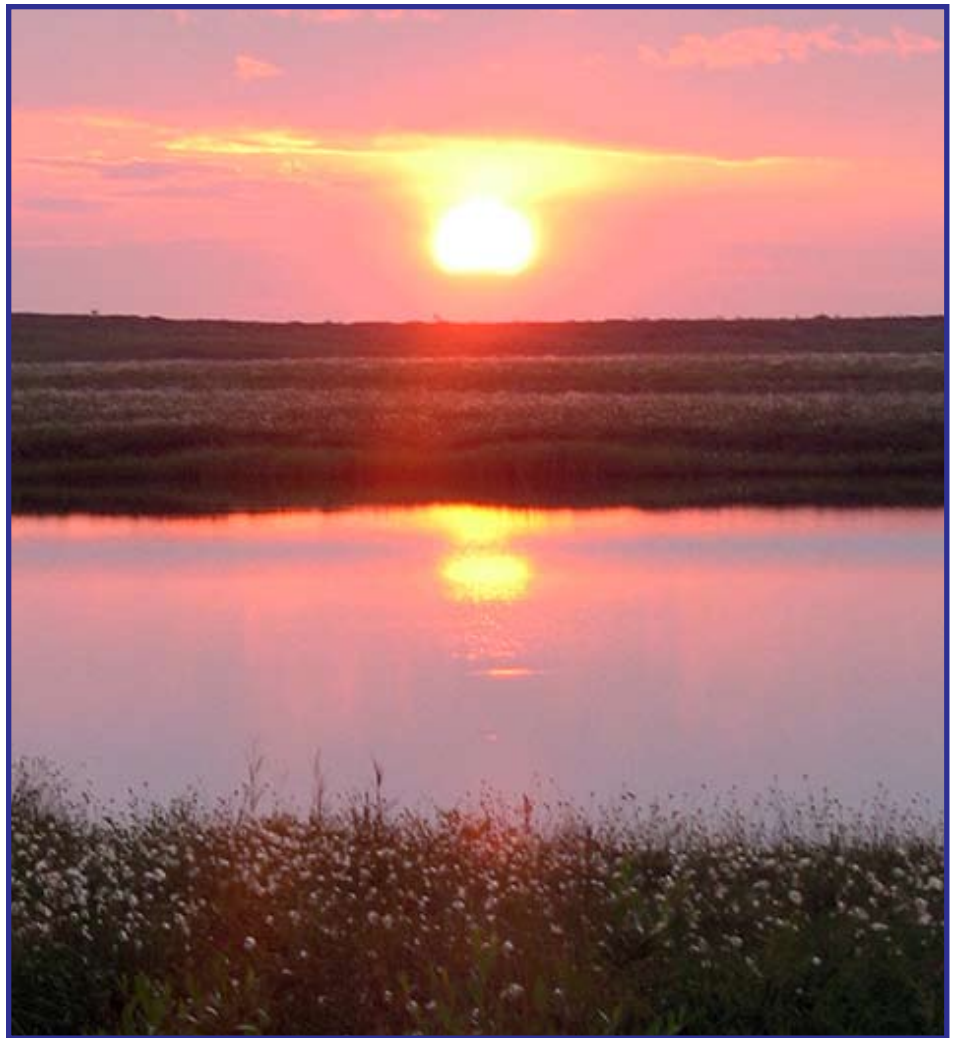
Congratulations to **Trp. Honie Abercrombie** on her marriage to Matt Culley.

The troopers and new sergeant have settled in and have been seeing great progress. The local non-profit Kawerak has been able to fill five of the six VPSO positions and has candidates for the sixth vacancy.

It has been a busy summer with lots of sun, campfires and fishing on the Seward Peninsula.

ANIAK

Trp. Alex Arduser is leaving the Aniak Post, headed back to AWT with his new duty station is Cordova effective Oct. 1. We are confident that the hectic pace of Aniak AST has prepared him for the 24-7 rat race that is Cordova.



Kelly Dunford captured second place and sweat shirt of her choice at the FOAST Museum with her photo of Sunset on the Tundra.



Bristol Bay Area Enforcement Supervisor Sgt. Randel McPherron says good-bye to **Trp. John Holm**.

Trp. John Williamson arrived in Emmonak mid-August. Fortunately he wore his uniform as nothing else showed up as planned.

Word is Emmonak reminds him a lot of Fairbanks. Of course without the roads, stores, restaurants and a few other amenities. Other than that, it's just like Fairbanks.

Trp. Terry Tuckwood of Bethel AST is transferring to St. Marys, effective Oct. 1. We wish him well and thank him for

stepping up. Condolences and words of encouragement may be sent to him in care of the St. Mary's Post at PO Box 108 St. Mary's, Alaska 99658.

AWT **Trp. Tim Hall** has been working hard making inroads into the lawless country known as the Aniak River. "Resource Users" have become uncomfortable at the sight of his boat. He recently brought a Super Cub to Aniak to further enhance his efforts. Long time coming.

That is about it for the river country. Winter is fast approaching right after the two-week fall is over with and with it a new set of challenges. ■



The Kotzebue Post inaugurated the 19-foot Thunder Jet, "Miss Behavin" in August with a patrol of the Kotzebue area. The inboard V8 vessel drew attention from community residents as it patrolled through the water ways and is expected to make multiple trips to villages to assist with alcohol interdictions to the local option communities, boating safety and to ultimately provide a unique patrol option. Sgt. Karl Main is pictured in back.



(Pictured above) Kotzebue post supervisor Sgt. Karl Main's three children, Aidan, Ciana and Malia step onto the ice during break up this past June on the Kotzebue Sound. Nome Admin. Clerk Gloria Kamun snapped this photo (above right) of Trp. Paul Kosto with Sen. Lisa Murkowski when Murkowski, Sen. Ted Stevens and Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings visited Nome Elementary School during a tour of public schools in the area at the end of August. (Pictured right) Staff from the Bristol Bay Area Enforcement get together for Trp. John Holm's going away gathering. They are from left to right, Trp. Jason Fieser, AWT Trp. Justin Rodgers, Trp. Marc Hendrickson, Trp. Dan Sadloske (kneeling), Trp. Dave Bump, Trp. John Holm, Admin. Clerk III Rebecca Roenfanz (kneeling) and Dillingham supervisor Sgt. Randel McPherron.



D Detachment News

BY SUE ROGERS

Fairbanks has said hello and good-bye many times this summer. **Trp. John Williamson** left for Emmonak, **Trp. Henry Ching** for Bethel and **Trp. Joe Harris** for Delta Junction.

Trp. Joshua Rallo transferred to Tok from Bethel.

Trp. Chad Goeden transferred to Fairbanks patrol from the Sitka Academy, getting a promotion in the process to become a sergeant. **Sgt. Rick Roberts**, also from the Academy in Sitka, is now in Fairbanks Patrol.

We have **Trp. Harold Miller** in Healy, previously in Kotzebue, taking the place of Brian Ziesel who will be out on military leave for a year.

Sgt. Scott Johnson is now at the helm of the ABADE unit in Fairbanks, replacing **Ron Wall**, our newly promoted Deputy Commander.

New trooper recruits include **Yvonne Howell**, **Charles Inderrieden** and **Dan Brom**.

Paul "Vince" Meyer transferred to AST from Homer Police Department and after completing his FTO will be stationed in Tok.

Fairbanks Judicial Services has three new CSO's: **David Jones**, **Curtis Brown** and **Anthony Smith**.

Alicia Pegues started in dispatch in July and **Karis Berrian** came on board in August as an evidence clerk.

Summer seemed to roll by quickly in Delta Junction and



It was a girls weekend out over Sept. 8-9. The big event was a raft trip down the Nenana River. Pictured are from the left, rafting guide Clint, CSO Cheryl Gilmour, Lela (a guide in training), Ava Lindner (daughter of evidence clerk Diane Lindner), Fairbanks Police Officer Alex Wells Trp. Sherry Ferno, evidence clerk Diane Lindner, Angie Wells and former ADA Danielle Foster.

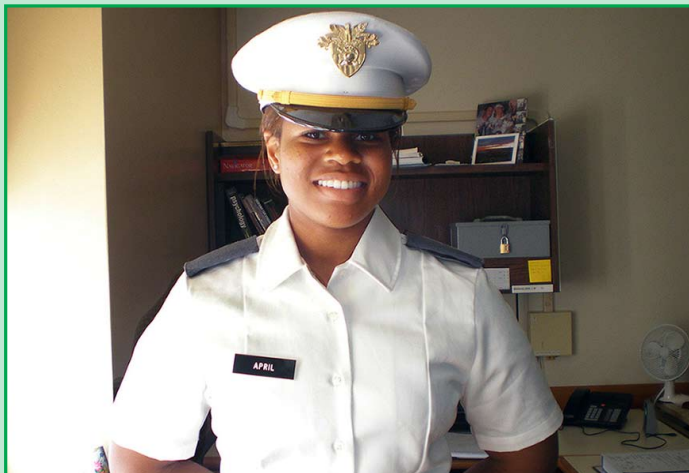
as the busy summer is over, help has arrived.

Trp. Maurizio Salinas arrived at the end of July to fill a

(D Det., continued on page 20)

CADET APRIL REPORTS TO WEST POINT

BY LT. ANTHONY APRIL



New West Point Cadet Private Ashley April shows off her daily uniform shortly after she graduated from Cadet Basic Training.



Ashley April, middle, stands in formation on reception day, or the first day of Cadet Basic Training. April just started attending West Point Academy.

The C Detachment family would like to congratulate New Cadet Ashley April for being accepted into the United States Military Academy, Class of 2011. Ashley is the daughter of Lt. Tony April, deputy C Detachment commander.

The Class of 2011 was selected from a pool of more than 10,838 applicants. Ashley was among 1,100 cadets from all over



the world to start and complete the six and one-half weeks of Cadet Basic Training (CBT) also known as "Beast Barracks."

After being officially accepted into the Corp of Cadets, Ashley was promoted to Cadet Private.

Ashley is part of the West Point tradition, the "Long Gray Line," which dates back to 1802. ■

D Det., continued from page 19

vacancy from January. Salinas moved up to “God’s country” from Tok and has been smiling ever since. Maybe that is how he always looks?

Also in July, we said good bye to **Trp. Nasruk Nay**, who had been in Delta Junction for nearly 6 ½ years. Nay left the green grass of Delta Junction and transferred to Dillingham ABADE. Nay’s knowledge of the area and residents will certainly be missed. The Delta Troopers hosted a send off to wish him and his family the best of luck.

With the arrival of **Trp. Joseph Harris** from Fairbanks patrol as of Sept. 1, the Delta Trooper Post is finally fully staffed and Troopers “**Mike**” **Wilcox** and **Edward Halbert** can breathe a sigh of relief. ■



THEN AND NOW

Then: (On left) Ron Wall gets chummy with Cubby Bear in a photo that was taken, by his estimates 16 years ago, while he worked with the Explorer program.

Now: (On right) Wall was promoted to lieutenant and D Detachment Deputy Commander effective Aug. 1. His wife, Amanda, did the pinning honors.



Delta Junction post supervisor Sgt. Tim Tuckwood, left, hands Trp. Nasruk Nay a plaque at his going away party at the Tuckwood residence in Delta Junction in mid-July. After many years in Delta, Nay transferred to Dillingham to join WAANT.



176th Command Chief Master Sergeant Tim Tillman gives newly appointed Air National Guard Master Sergeant Sherry Ferno (aka Trooper Ferno) her recognition plaque during a ceremony in Anchorage on Sept. 7. Ferno was inducted with roughly 100 other new master sergeants from both the Guard and active duty Air Force in Anchorage.



Sgt. Freddie Wells presents Trooper Maurizio Salinas with an appreciation award for his service and dedication while working in Tok patrol for over two years. Salinas transferred to Delta Junction patrol.



Capt. Burke Barrick, in uniform, hands Trp. Joe Harris, pictured left, and Trp. Henry Ching, pictured right, going away plaques at D Detachment headquarters on Aug. 21. Ching transferred to Bethel and Harris moved down the road to Delta Junction.



E Detachment News

On **K-9 Anchor's** first day of active work, the Anchor Point troopers received a REDDI call. **Trp. Greg Pealater** and **Sgt. Tom Dunn** obtained reasonable suspicion (DUI and drugs history and passenger statements) to run K-9 Anchor around the outside of the vehicle. Anchor indicated for a controlled substance, and the vehicle was seized. Warrants were obtained and drugs and paraphernalia were found. Not too shabby for Anchor's first day, his first car and first drug find. Anchor continues to perform spectacularly, and is proving to be a very valuable member of the team.

Troopers **John Cyr** and **Larry Erickson**, currently serving with the Air Guard, are being deployed overseas. We wish them a safe tour and a speedy return.

On July 29, **Sgt. Bryan Barlow** and pilot **Mel Nading** just happened to be patrolling Cook Inlet in Helo I when **Trp. Howard Peterson** determined a kayaker was in trouble. A bore tide had separated the young man from his kayak, and he was being rapidly swept away by the frigid current. Nading swiftly and expertly positioned the helicopter so that Barlow could hoist the victim aboard. Had they not been so quick to respond (and fortuitously in the area already), the young man could not have survived much longer in the water. Thanks to Peterson's observant nature and the decisiveness and quick actions of Barlow and Nading, a life was saved.



Trp. Vanessa Meade snapped this photo of her kayaking companions, from left, **AWT PST Nick Kimmel**, **Trp. Joe Minnick**, **Trp. Josh Cook** and **Trp. Matthew Wertanen** on **Tustumena Lake**.

The Seward post welcomes **Sue Fleetwood** as their new Administrative Clerk III. Sue is a lifelong Alaskan who has lived in Seward for 26 years. In her free time, she enjoys home improvement projects, gardening and attempting to train her three shih-tzu dogs (although with very little success). While the dogs might have proven a challenge, Sue did a great job with her two children, who are both currently in college.

Capt. Pete Mlynarik returned this summer from a 10-week course at the **FBI National Academy**. Course work was varied,

and covered topics such as terrorism, computer skills, legal issues, stress management and physical training. 300 students from 28 different countries participated in the Academy, providing excellent networking opportunities. In addition to the course work, Mlynarik was able to visit sites such as the Holocaust Museum and the National Law Enforcement Memorial.

Trp. Matthew Wertanen turned 25 on August 29. He sure was surprised to come back from vacation to find baby pictures of

(E Det., continued on page 22)



K-9 Anchor and his handler **Trp. Greg Pealater** check a vehicle on their first day on the job together in Anchor Point.



Trp. Matthew Wertanen is surprised to find baby pictures of himself plastered on the squad room door and his desk, compliments of his dad, in celebration of his 25th birthday in August.



Communications Center Supervisor Tammy Goggia, left, and Dispatcher Carly Reimer walk the track in the American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life.



Troopers John Cyr, left, and Larry Erickson, right, are currently serving with the Air Guard and are deployed overseas.



Soldotna Detachment Clerk Shae Hollandsworth and Soldotna ABI Investigator Scott Briggs react as they first see a rubber replica of a human butt that was recovered from the side of a road by a patrol trooper. The item was properly disposed of in the local landfill.

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himself plastered on the squad room door and his desk, compliments of his dad. Happy Birthday Wertanen and all the August, September, October and December birthdays for the Soldotna AST post and Dispatch.

Dispatcher **Jennifer Russell** and husband Olen Shears welcomed their third child (and first son) on July 24, 2007. Olen Webster Shears III weighed in at 8 pounds, 8 ounces and is the delight of older sisters Molly and Katie.

Communications Center Supervisor **Tammy Goggia** and Dispatcher **Carly Reimer** walked the track in the American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life. Tammy co-captained the Public Safety/Hospice team, which raised over \$2,500 for the American Cancer Society. Many Public Safety employees showed up with their families to walk the track in recognition of cancer survivors, in honor of cancer victims and in support of those currently battling cancer. ■

ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOPERS

AWT HIT ALASKA WATERS

BY MEGAN PETERS, PIO
AND AWT JASON BALL

Alaska Wildlife Trooper Tom Akelkok was walking through the thick brush at Sheep Creek when he saw four poachers catching king salmon.

Within minutes he was standing behind the four men. They already had two almost dead kings caught from waters closed to the fish and were casting for another go-around. It didn't take long for them to figure out they had been caught breaking the law.

"I got 'em on camera," Akelkok said before coming out of the woods to talk to the anglers.

This particular Saturday, Akelkok was patrolling the popular fishing spots along the road system. The sport fish enforcement in Southcentral Alaska began on June 18 and ended July 10, followed by fishery enforcement in the Bristol Bay area.

Wildlife Troopers statewide came into Southcentral to assist in checking the fishing permits of thousands of fisherman hoping to catch "the big one."

However, with dozens upon dozens anglers not following the regulations, many had to forfeit their fish over to the state. The forfeited fish were then donated to charity.

What is amazing about the patrols is many of the fishermen take the citation with a smile and a response of "thanks" for those brown shirts patrolling the Southcentral waters.

One happy-go-not-so-lucky fisherman held up his illegal fish for a picture – as proof to his buddies that his son caught a beautiful fish – before it was whisked off to be dinner for a needy Alaskan.

Some of the ticket receivers even pass on tips of where they saw other fishermen breaking the law.

This year, Alaska Wildlife Troopers made 4,634 contacts with the public in their enforcement efforts across the state.

The special enforcement netted 416 resource-related tickets ranging from taking fish in closed waters to not having a valid fishing license. Wildlife Troopers also gave out 300 warnings.



Alaska Wildlife Trooper Thomas Akelkok matches illegal hooks used to catch king salmon when writing tickets for four poaching anglers on the Montana Creek on June 24. The anglers were also cited for not having fishing licenses, fishing in waters closed to kings and not recording the catch on king tags.

The beefed up patrol did snag a few non-resource related offenders, to include a DUI arrest, disorderly conduct and a few warrant arrests.

Patrol trucks, unmarked trucks, fixed wing aircraft, river boats and a helicopter were used in by 14 Alaska Wildlife Troopers and Public Safety Technicians on a variety of patrols whether in, undercover or in plain

clothes and stake outs during the two month-long effort.

Troopers were out 24 hours a day.

The enforcement stretched from Ship Creek in Anchorage to the creeks and rivers near Talkeetna for the first portion of the patrols.

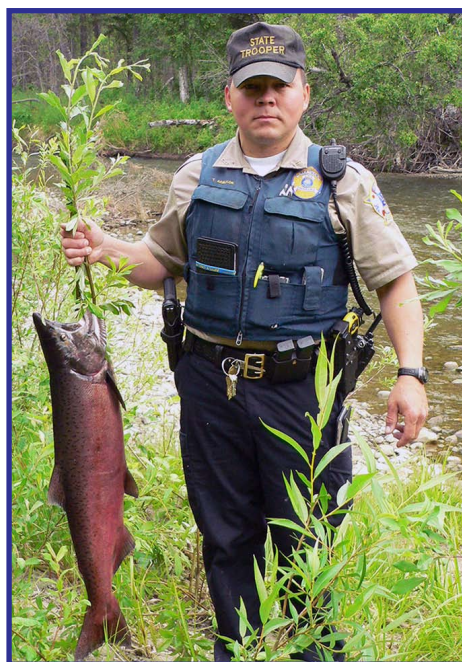
Then in July, AWT invaded the Bristol Bay area.

For those not familiar with Bristol Bay, it is located several hundred miles Southwest of Anchorage and can only be accessed by airplane or boat.

Bristol Bay is among other things, home to the world's largest sockeye salmon return. The rugged landscape is filled with hundreds of lakes and streams drawing thousands of hunters, fishermen, and tourists every year. The large return of salmon in Bristol Bay attracts commercial fisherman from all over the world, who return every summer to harvest the salmon.

To address the enforcement needs of the fishery, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers recruit numerous additional Troopers from around the state, resulting in the largest enforcement program conducted annually by the Department of Public Safety.

Additionally, this year AWT joined forces with the U.S. Coast Guard in a combined effort to educate and enforce boating safety laws for the commercial



AWT Thomas Akelkok holds up king salmon he seized and turned over to charity after catching a boy fishing in waters only open to trout fishing.

(AWT, continued on page 23



Fishing boats pack the Kvichak River in the Bristol Bay region. AWT performed fisheries enforcement in river in July.

AWT, continued from page 23

fishing fleet that number over 1,500 vessels. This collaboration led to a record number of commercial fishing vessel exams conducted, and increased the overall safety of the fleet.

This year was a very productive one, according to AWT Jason Ball.

AWT had 41 people involved in the effort, including troopers, PSTII's, clerks, boat crews and everyone in between. AWT also had several patrol vessels including the Stimson, Woldstad, Kvichak and several department patrol skiffs.

In addition AWT had two state aircraft

used for aerial patrol.

Ball said this was a phenomenal year for the fleet of commercial fishermen in terms of the number of sockeye salmon that returned to their spawning grounds.

This was especially true for the Nushigak District, where they had the second biggest return of salmon since 1983 with just shy of 8 million fish. This was also the case for the Naknek/Kvichak District which had its largest return since 1999 with over 5.7 million sockeye salmon. The return Bristol Bay wide was well over 20 million sockeye salmon.

From logistics to funding, everything must be planned appropriately in order to have

things work properly. Especially with a patrol area as vast as Bristol Bay, encompassing all of the commercial districts including; the Naknek/Kvichak, Egegik, Nushigak, Ugashik and Togiak districts, Ball said.

The AWT team that made the enforcement effort a success was made up of many seasoned people that had been coming to Bristol Bay for several years and then there were the "rookies" like Ball had their work cut out for them to learn the ropes in Bristol Bay.

Ball said he learned a lot in a short amount of time about the fishery, and the enforcement demands needed to properly regulate it. ■



Members of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers who conducted sport fishing enforcement in Southcentral Alaska for the first part of the AWT enforcement efforts this summer get together for a picnic at Lake Lucille in June.

AWT PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

Caribou hunters in rafts on the Ivashak River "surrender" to Trp. Dennis Roe next to the helicopter. No violations were noted.



Among the numerous patrols across Alaska, Wildlife Troopers took to the skies and waterways on the North Slope and in the Interior to keep an eye on moose, sheep and caribou hunters in August and September.

AWT were busy chasing hunters in what AWT D Detachment Commander **Lt. Lantz Dahlke** considers "the most beautiful country in the world." The handful of troopers patrolled an area roughly the size of Minnesota north of the Brooks Range, making sure they were followed both hunting and boating guidelines

The operation ran out of Happy Valley, an old pipeline construction camp located at mile 334 of the Dalton Highway and 84 miles south of Prudhoe Bay.

Efforts included Helo 2 and pilot AWT **Trp. Dennis Roe**, fixed wing pilots **Trp. Andy Evarts**, **Sgt. Scott Quist** and road patrols by AWT **Trp. Mike Potter** and Dahlke. They each went out on 12- to 14-

hour patrols and met back at the camp each night. Dahlke estimated the group had anywhere from 50 to 100 contacts with hunters daily within their large area of coverage. Many times those contacts were simply to make sure hunters were complying with regulations, something they might not have done otherwise if the contact was not made.

Other AWT troopers stationed elsewhere in the state switched gears from fishing enforcement by traveling to the Interior to help out with moose hunts Sept. 1-25.

Dahlke said AWT troopers **James Burton** (Sitka), **Kurt Walgenbach** (Klawock), **Anthony Beck** (Valdez) and **Sgt. Greg Garcia** (Dutch Harbor) "had huge contacts and worked lots of cases" while they were TDY.

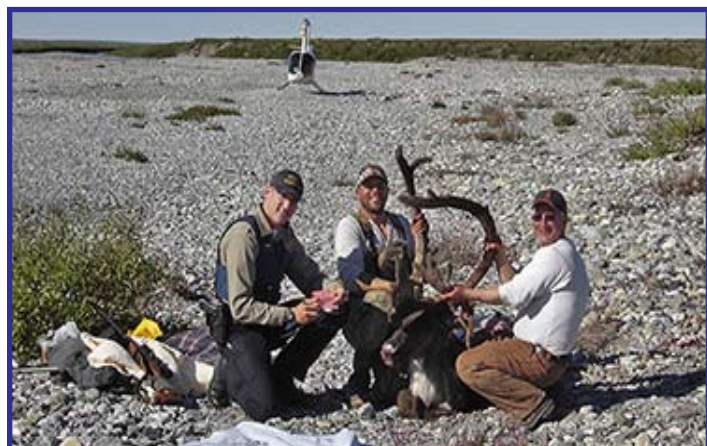
Dahlke said next on the agenda is the continuing fall moose hunt, especially the 900-cow permit hunt open in Delta Junction from Oct. 1-Nov. 14. ■



Trp. Dennis Roe and Trp. Joseph Paul from Fairbanks AWT patrolling in an airboat somewhere around Fairbanks.



Trp. Dennis Roe and Helo 2 in the Brooks Range.



Trp. Michael Potter checks caribou hunters on the North Slope.



Trp. Andy Evarts checks for "evidence of sex" during helicopter patrol stop on the North Slope.

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD CONTINUED



Trp. Michael Potter waves good-bye to civilization as he prepares to fly his duty Supercub to his post in Galena in April.



Trp. Dennis Roe checked caribou hunters in rafts on the Ivashak River on the North Slope. No violations issued to this group and they were all wearing PFD's.



These salmon were the result of an overnight patrol at Larson Creek on the Talkeetna River where AWT Trp. Doug Massie and PSTI Bill Payne surprised some folks in the early moving hours.



The Helo 2 sits outside the AWT cabin at Happy Valley Airstrip, 84 miles south of Deadhorse. AWT used the R-44 helicopter to patrol the North Slope

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD CONTINUED



Trp. Michael Potter checks caribou hunters on ice field on the North Slope.



The Talkeetna AWT post parking lot is full of patrol vehicles. During the Special Enforcement Session this season AWT brought TDY Troopers from all over the state to participate in the Mat-Su area.



Woldstad Boat Officer Amanda Barnette helps out with the patrol of commercial fishing in the Bristol Bay area in July.



This king salmon was seized and turned over to charity by AWT troopers patrolling Montana Creek on June 24.



Anglers line up the riverbanks hoping to catch king salmon in Southcentral Alaska.

DIVISION OF FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY



Dave Tyler

BY STATE FIRE MARSHAL DAVE TYLER

The Division of Fire Prevention has a new name. We are now the Division of Fire and Life Safety.

I have never felt that "Fire Prevention" was an adequate name for the division. We only want to prevent a small number of the fires that

occur in this state. Camp fires, fires in your home heating system, fires used in industry, to name a few, are essential to our life style. It is more important to teach the public to use fire safely.

Our goals remain the same; reduce the loss of life and property caused by destructive fire. This will be accomplished through public education, life safety inspections and building plans review.

Remember fire safety is an individual responsibility. ■

BY MAHLON GREENE

The Division of Fire and Life Safety is happy to announce that Senate Bill 84, the "Safe Cigarette Bill" was signed into law by Gov. Sarah Palin on July 18. Palin signed SB84 into law at a ceremony held at Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department's Fire Station 31. **State Fire Marshal David L. Tyler** and **Public Education Coordinator Mahlon H. Greene** attended the ceremony representing the Division of Fire and Life Safety.

This legislation will have a major impact on fires started by cigarettes. Safe cigarettes are cigarettes that are manufactured to go out unless they are being actively smoked. This will reduce the number of fires started by unattended smoldering cigarettes.

Smoking mixed with alcohol and or drugs is still the leading cause of fire fatalities in Alaska. SB84 mandates that all cigarettes sold in the Alaska must be "Safe Cigarettes." Retailers and wholesalers have until July 1, 2008 to change their inventory over to the new cigarettes.

The Division would like to welcome two new employees this quarter.

Fire Training Administrator Gordon Descutner came on board to administrate the PRISM training center in Kenai and the Southeast Fire Training Office in Juneau. Gordon was the Fire Chief at the Whittier Tunnel before coming to the Division. Gordon's office is at the PRISM training facility in Kenai.



Gordon Descutner



Cissy Buck

Administrative Clerk III Cissy Buck has joined the team in the Plan Review Bureau. Cissy came to us from the Alaska State Troopers Division Operations. Cissy will be a great asset to the Division.

Amendments to the Alaska Fire and Life Safety Regulations were signed into law by Lt. Gov. Sean Parnell in August. The amendments were adopted to reflect the changes in

the 2006 ICC Building Codes. The amendments will be effective Sept. 13, 2007.

Mahlon spent another year camped out at the Alaska State Fair in Palmer. In the days leading up to the fair, Mahlon taught fire safety classes to all of the food vendors and State Fair employees. 112 people attended the class spread out over three days. The Palmer Fire Department helped with these classes and **Deputy Fire Marshal I John Bond**, with some help from **Deputy Fire Marshal I Nathan Rocheleau**, inspected fair booths for fire safety compliance. These safety classes will be required at all large events around the State. The Life Safety Inspection Bureau and the Training and Education Bureau will coordinate this statewide effort.

This year's fair saw record crowds due to the beautiful weather that lasted throughout the 12 days of the fair. Mahlon traveled to Ninilchik the week prior to the State Fair to set up a booth in the Kenai Peninsula Fair. Central Emergency Services provided man power and their fire safety trailer for the Kenai Peninsula Fair. ■



DPS Commissioner Walt Monegan speaks at a bill signing ceremony in front of the Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department station on July 18. Gov. Sarah Palin signed the Safe Cigarette Bill.



Public Education Coordinator Mahlon Greene manned the Fire Prevention Division, now called the Life and Fire Safety, portion of the DPS booth at the State Fair in Palmer and instructed children on fire safety.

PRISM TRAINING CENTER

BY GORDON DESCUTNER

In early 2007, the Division of Fire Prevention Training and Education Bureau finalized an agreement with the City of Kenai to manage the Pacific Rim Institute of Safety and Management, also known by its acronym, PRISM.

Throughout this spring and summer, there has been steady interest in the use of the PRISM training facility. In addition to the various fire service classes, PRISM has hosted a number of first aid and safety classes.

Most people that have heard of PRISM know the live fire training simulators are a

key attraction for fire service training. What many people may not know is that PRISM also has excellent classroom facilities, a large outdoor training ground and a three-story structure that serves as a confined space or industrial prop.

Over the years fire related training has been the focal point of the PRISM facility. However, PRISM can host a variety of training activities and would encourage everyone that is looking for a training location in the Kenai area to call us for more information on what training functions we can facilitate. ■

FAIRBANKS TRAINING CENTER

BY WILLIAM HEDRICK



The construction of Phase 1 is rolling along at the Fairbanks Regional Fire Training Center.

The construction consisted of a new 10-inch hydrant loop, along with the foundation work for the live fire building.

The building is two-story and part of Phase 2 scheduled for next year if funding is approved.

The cost of the second phase is \$395,000, according to Chief Warren Cummings of the Fairbanks Fire Department.

The project will enhance the training of firefighters in all fire departments throughout the Interior. ■

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Many changes have occurred this past summer for the Division of Administrative Services.

The entire department is now participating in using the State Travel Office (STO) for travel arrangements. Each division has a divisional coordinator available to answer questions, assist in profile changes (where employees transfer, credit card number change, etc.) and ensure procedures are followed.

The divisional coordinators include: **Shirley Weston** (AST), **Kim Fassett** (AWT), **Cassandra Byrne** (Commissioner's Office), **Dianna Pree** (Fire Prevention), **Gil Nelson** (ABC Board), **Joanne Griggs** (CDVSA), **Luci Christopher** (APSC) and **Justine Bishop** (Administrative Services). The DPS travel coordinators include **Lisa Emerson** and **Nancy Wojnowski**, who assist the divisional coordinators.

Administrative Services has hired new employees, **Christopher Brooks** in Supply, **Melinda Harper** – Juneau Finance, **Tim Barnes** – Grants section and **Ryan Peterson** - Finance in Anchorage.

Brooks was hired for the Procurement Specialist I position in DPS Supply.

Chris comes from the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, where he served as a Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer for the past two years. He also has several years of private sector experience with several security companies in Anchorage.

Chris is a U.S. Army veteran – with both active duty and reserve service –



Ryan Peterson

where he worked as a Supply Supervisor in a helicopter aviation battalion at Fort Hood, Texas. He also is very experienced in weapons handling from his military service.



Christopher Brooks

Chris has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Wayland Baptist University and is currently pursuing his master's degree in management.

He will be serving in Supply as our DPS State Property Officer, working directly with the numerous DPS property custodians throughout Alaska who manage our state property inventory records.



Tim Barnes

Additionally, he will be working closely with the AST and AWT Divisions to procure household goods moving services for our relocating troopers and their families.

He also will be working on a wide variety of small procurement projects in

support of numerous DPS organizations, including AST, AWT, the Crime Lab and the VPSO program.

Chris has a strong record of career and academic achievement and we are confident he will do a great job providing supply support for our many customers throughout the Department.

Peterson is an Accounting Clerk I and a spring graduate of the University of Nebraska Lincoln with a double major in Mathematics and Psychology. He is also a Native Alaskan and a graduate of Service High.

Tim will handle the accounting for our federal and state grants and contracts. Melinda works in the Juneau office as an Accounting Clerk.

In mid-August **Barry Roberts**, State Policy Advisor for the Bureau of Justice Assistance visited Alaska for an on-site review. While he was here, he met with **Maj. Matt Leveque**, **Kelly Howell**, **Geney McDowell**, **Lisa Emerson**, **Lt. Tony April** and **Capt. Keith Mallard**. The visit was well received and he enjoyed our lovely wet week.

(Admin. Svcs., continued on page 30)



Admin. Svc., cont. from page 29

For a personal touch, **Lisa Emerson** got married in late July. She married Jim Galea on July 29 in Anchorage at the Alaska Botanical Gardens followed by the reception at their home. The weather was perfect, actually too hot at times. Not bad planning considering the date was picked in January when the weather was snowy and cold. ■

Administrative Manager IV Lisa Emerson, center in white, married Jim Galea on July 29 in Anchorage at the Alaska Botanical Gardens.

DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERTS ATTEND VEGAS CONFERENCE

Want to take a trip inside the mind of the marijuana user? Four AST Drug Recognition Experts got an opportunity to do just that at the 13th Annual DRE National Conference held at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, July 31–Aug. 2.

This was a rare opportunity for DREs from municipal police agencies and AST to come together for training and fellowship.

Five AST DREs attended: **Sgt. Troy Shuey** (AST Agency Coordinator) from B Detachment, **Sgt. Dave Herrell** from Judicial Services in Anchorage, **Trp. Mike Zweifel** from E Detachment, **Trp. Andrew Ballesteros** from C Detachment and **Trp. Ryan Nichols** from D Detachment, attended the conference.

Lt. Barry Wilson of headquarters joined the other AST DREs along with **Colleen O'Bryant** and **Jeanne Swartz** from the Crime Lab.

Also in attendance were DREs from the Anchorage Police Department, the Fairbanks Police Department, Wasilla Police Department and Palmer Police Department.

Some of the topics presented at the conference included DRE and Commercial



Judicial Services Sgt. Dave Herrell joins other Alaskan DREs at lunch during the 2007 DRE National Conference in Las Vegas.

Vehicle Enforcement, Explaining the Methamphetamine Dopamine Blues, Dextromethorphan Use and Abuse in DUI Cases, in addition to the marijuana user talk.

One of the featured presentations was used in a DUI trial in Palmer. Dr. Karl Citek presented a research topic illustrating the differences in eye movements in sleep-

deprived drivers compared to drivers impaired by alcohol or other depressants.

The sessions were informative and lengthy, but everyone seemed to enjoy the conference location and since everyone reported for duty following the conference, apparently no one walked away from Las Vegas with a legendary fortune. ■



25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Maj. Matt Leveque presents **Lt. Nils Monsen**, Anchorage supervisor of Judicial Services, with a certificate for 25 years of service effective Aug. 31, 2006. Monsen was presented with the certificate at headquarters on July 16, 2007.

JOB WELL DONE

VPSO RECOGNIZED AT CONFERENCE

BY BETH IPSEN

Otis Rolls, one of two Village Public Safety Officers in the Northwest Arctic region, believes he's making a difference in Kobuk.

Rolls has been a VPSO for 10 years, part of the time in neighboring Shungnak, and more recently in Kobuk where he lives with his family of five. He moved to Kobuk because of housing, but still spends time responding to Shungnak when the need arises. Kobuk sits on the bank of the Kobuk River and has a population of just little more than 100 people. It's located 128 air miles northeast of Kotzebue and seven miles from Shungnak.

The VPSO program's motto "First Responders – Last Frontier" is something that Rolls and the other almost 50 officers statewide live and breathe.

VPSOs are stationed in communities and usually are the first to respond to calls for help. They're part health aid, firefighter and police officer. They're on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Rolls gets phone calls at all hours of the night.

It's not an easy task, but Rolls, a native of West Texas, still enjoys doing it.

When Rolls thinks about his retirement, there's one thing he plans on going without.

"When I retire, I'm not going to have a phone," he said.



Village Public Safety Officer Otis Rolls holds up the award DPS Commissioner Walt Monegan presented to Rolls at the Law Enforcement Conference in Kotzebue in August. Rolls was recognized by DPS for the dedication and positive relationships he has cultivated while serving over 10 years as the first responder in the villages Kobuk and Shungnak.

Rolls, who still has a southern twang, believes in keeping a sense of humor when dealing with people he's detained. He also believes in being honest with the people he arrests.

Rolls received a letter of appreciation from Alaska State Troopers for the hard work and dedication he gives as a VPSO in Kobuk and for his willingness to respond to Shungnak.

"You have demonstrated an exceptional attitude as a VPSO," Sgt. Karl Main, the supervisor of the Kotzebue trooper post, wrote in the letter.

"The positive relationships you have established in both Kobuk and Shungnak have been both obvious and apparent during trips to both communities where it was clear that residents liked and respected you," Main wrote.

"Because of the contacts you have made in both communities, you have been successful with your case investigations and have passed those contacts on to other State Troopers who respond to the villages. These relationships serve as a constant reminder of the importance of establishing strong community relations within the region we serve, which aides all of us as law enforcement officers." ■



From left, Troopers Josh Heinbaugh, Nathan Duce, Sgt. Duane Stone, admin. staff Jane Flygstad and Trooper Elizabeth Haddad stand in front of the Glennallen post. They received a thank you in the local newspaper July 18 for their help in the Glennallen Fourth of July parade.

PUBLISHED THANKS

The Copper River Record, the newspaper with circulation in the Copper River Basin, published a thank you from Fourth of July parade chairman directed to the Alaska State Troopers at the Glennallen post.

"Thanks to our Alaska State Troopers and the ever personable and community-minded **Sergeant Duane Stone**," the July 18 article read.

Stone was then individually mentioned at the end of the article as one of the nine people that received additional praise. ■

IN MEMORY

FORMER DPS COMMISSIONER DIES

Former Commissioner of Public Safety Martin Underwood died on July 15, 2007 in Oregon. Underwood was 87 at the time of his death at a long-term care facility in Portland.

Underwood came to Alaska in 1952 and served with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Fairbanks before taking the helm of the Department of Public Safety.

According to a book celebrating the Alaska State Trooper's 50th anniversary, Underwood selected Alaska as one of his choices of places he'd like to go because it was one of the farthest places from Washington D.C.

Underwood worked in law enforcement in both territorial days and in the beginning of statehood. He wrote about the atmosphere at the time as "hilarious or drunken" as the territory was on the verge of a construction boom.

"As I recall, most of the crime and disturbances were due to booze – fighting, automobile accidents, and just plain drunkenness involving the construction workers and military mostly," Underwood wrote.

However, it was his first reaction after experiencing an earthquake that caused him to wonder what he was "doing in a place like" Fairbanks, the book says. The lure of traveling all over the territory and the interesting job kept him in Alaska.

While with the FBI, he was a member of the Fairbanks Crime Squad, which handled most of the major crimes in the Fairbanks area. The crime squad's operations were kept largely confidential and its membership was kept very limited, the book says.

In 1960, he was appointed by Gov. Bill Egan to the position of the commissioner of the Alaska State Police. He replaced the first Commissioner James Fitzgerald, who temporary filled the position starting in September 1959 while Fitzgerald's appointment to one of the state's first judgeships was still pending. Fitzgerald only held the position four months.



Martin Underwood, left, pictured with Gov. Bill Egan, came to Alaska in 1952 and was appointed DPS commissioner to replace James M. Fitzgerald in January 1960. Underwood served in the position until 1967. He died in Portland on July 15, 2007. He was 87.

Underwood strictly followed J. Edgar Hoover's emphasis on paperwork, voluntary overtime and training – FBI aspects he implemented into the DPS.

Most of his vacations were annual summer tours to inspect all the state police posts, the book states.

During Underwood's tenure, the new State Police added 13 former U.S. Marshals and 10 new recruits to their ranks, increasing their number to 78 commissioned officers. During this time, the State Police provided "contract officers" for communities willing to pay for trained law enforcement. Kotzebue, Kenai-Soldotna, Seward, Palmer and Bethel were among the communities to pay for a "contract officer" from the State Police.

One of Underwood's undertakings was to expand law enforcement in the Bush and attract new recruits from the Native populations. The Village Police Safety Officer program was developed during these years.

Underwood served as commissioner until 1967. According to his obituary in the newspaper in Roseburg, Ore. where he retired, he later worked for the U.S. Department of Commerce in Fairbanks. He was the director of Safety and Security at the University of Alaska from 1967 until 1978.

His obituary says he is survived by his brother, Aidan B. Underwood and his wife, Marjorie of Memphis, Tenn.; 26 nieces and nephews throughout 16 states and his close family friend and caregiver, Susan Bettis of Roseburg. ■

IN OTHER NEWS

FOAST'S FITNESS INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Fraternal Order of the Alaska State Troopers developed a fitness program meant to provide incentive to start a fitness regimen or increase current efforts to maintain fitness. The FOAST Fitness Program officially started Sept. 1, 2007.

The fitness program is similar to the past DPS running program but includes a number of sporting activities and exercise programs both to improve cardiovascular fitness and increase your overall strength.

This program will allow people to record activities from walking to team sports.

Participants are able to record the time spent or mileage traveled when walking, jogging, biking, swimming, skating, racquetball, handball, softball, kickball, baseball, basketball, karate, judo, wrestling, golf, weight training, aerobics, skiing and other physical activities or sporting events promoting fitness, which can be assigned fitness points.

The program will allow people to record

activities and time spent or mileage traveled on the forms provided. There is a separate form for recording weight training and an explanation of the points assigned to a given activity.

Those participants able to accumulate 100 points will be eligible for a 100 mile T-shirt and with the accumulation of 500 points, you will be eligible to purchase a FOAST FITNESS lettermen jacket complete with a FOAST Fitness badge.

As an added incentive, for those with the competitive spirit, a triathlete theme has been added wherein an accumulation of 500 points in three separate activities will result in triathlete insignia, to be added to the existing fitness badge.

Participation in this program will require participants to become a paid member of FOAST. Members and family will be encouraged to participate.

For more information go to www.alaskatroopmuseum.com ■

PHOTO SEEN AROUND THE WORLD



A mammoth iceberg dwarfs AST Public Information Officer Beth Ipsen during a recent outing to take photos of the LeConte Glacier in southeast Alaska. This photo taken by Petersburg resident and Associated Press photographer Klas Stolpe appeared in newspapers and websites around the globe, from all over Alaska, Calgary, Indiana and a Korean news website. The LeConte Glacier is the southernmost active tidewater glacier in the Northern hemisphere. Roughly 21-miles long and one-mile wide, the LeConte Glacier rests at the head of a 12-mile fjord carved out of the coastal mountain range over thousands of years. LeConte Glacier is one of the few remnants of the vast ice sheets that covered much of North America during the Pleistocene age.

THE DPS QUARTERLY

FALL 2007

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