

ALASKA The DPS Quarterly

WELCOME



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

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ENJOYING THE ALASKAN SUMMER

COLONEL'S COMMENTS

BY COL. AUDIE HOLLOWAY



Well, it has not been quite four months since I started.

Instead of waiting longer, I thought I would use this opportunity to send out a status report on what I,

detachment and bureau commanders and headquarters staff have been up to.

It probably won't surprise you that the picture is not very rosy. AST has some major hurdles to jump and I will not sugar-coat the issues. You know them as well as I do.

We still need to give the governor a complete description of our situation. She has been very busy with other major issues. We hope to meet with her soon to provide her with the "state of DPS and AST."

Not to be all negative, we have made some positive changes to some issues that will affect hiring and that will solve some hanging grievances. We are working on developing better relations with the labor unions and have asked for more input into labor negotiations.

The main bright spot is that we still have a good reputation with most of the public because of the effort that DPS-AST employees expend on customer service and citizen satisfaction, regardless if the citizen is prince or pauper. This is something we

all can do all the time. It will pay us big dividends in the future.

We are very close to having a completed long-range strategic plan that will provide a framework for a five-year strategic services plan and an annual operating plan. The draft version is complete. It has to be checked again by the detachment and bureau commanders, then we will make it available to everyone and we will put it on our website.

This initial long-range plan will give us guidance out to 2017. It is basically an overview of the way we want to do business and conduct ourselves internally and externally. It will incorporate technology and growth into all our planning and it will stress the importance of employee morale and job satisfaction to attract and keep good long-term employees.

The reason that we decided to commit time and energy to a strategic plan was that AST has several very big issues staring over the gun sights right at us.

There are so many difficult issues to deal with that we needed a plan to attack them in a tactical and efficient manner. So, the commanders and I spent virtually the entire SRF commander's conference and other meetings listing and describing the issues we face and then began trying to prioritize them. All of them seem to be the most important.

I will describe some of the issues and our

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responses to them.

AST is unable to respond adequately to some very major public safety, criminal and social issues such as sexual assault, sexual abuse of minors, highway traffic law enforcement, warrant services, child pornography and identity theft just to name a few.

We respond to individual cases with individual troopers, but we do not have an effective department response. This is due to manpower shortages in our agency, in the prosecution agencies and in the courts.

Those manpower shortages are caused by unsuccessful attempts to convince the public of the depth and scope of the problems. No one expects a public safety agency to solve every crime or to catch every criminal or to prevent every motor vehicle collision, but the public does expect AST to address most of these problems in a timely, competent and professional manner with a larger goal in mind than just the individual case.

Therefore, as an agency, AST falls short of expectations. That means we need to do a better job of convincing the public and the legislature that adequate staffing and financial backing are necessary if these large problems are to be successfully changed.

It is all very easy to identify and describe our problems, and it is relatively easy to come up with a response plan. The part that is not easy is to continually and coherently advertise the issues to create a groundswell of support. AST has to get some momentum on these issues.

To that end, we will be providing some briefing points – 60-second elevator speeches – so that when you get asked by a legislator or a citizen what the most pressing problems are of AST you will have an answer.

This will not be a mandatory canned speech, and you do not have to present the information if you do not believe it.

However, we will provide it to you so you have a response that is consistent with the message from the other troopers and staff. It will also be informative to you so that you know all the issues we are working on.

I will provide some bullet points with some elucidation on other projects:

- *Recruiting and Retention:* We have been brainstorming on this constantly. We have made some changes, mostly based upon suggestions from you. In essence, we will be hiring quarterly, giving notification to

new employees at least four weeks out, advising the new employees and their family where they will be stationed upon academy completion, improving the lateral hiring program to include out of state hires, increasing the starting salary for lateral hires based upon experience and providing some exemplary candidates previous employment prior to academy start.

- *Grievances and Labor Contracts:* We have been meeting with union representatives with the goal in mind of resolving problems. We will be responsive and fair in any disciplinary action. That does not mean we will avoid making tough decisions. We have asked to have input into the contract negotiations and we have put a contract negotiation preparation committee in motion. Many of the suggestions provided by your representatives on your behalf were already being considered.

- *Disciplinary Process:* We have been charting the disciplinary pathways and defining terms and phrases so every investigation, complaint, or inquiry is handled consistently throughout the organization.

- *Transfers, Promotions, Hiring and Training between AST and AWT:* We have developed some rules regarding the interactions between AST and AWT with the intent to improve the organization through cross-training, create rules for assistance and support to make sure we are able to complete our missions, to create opportunities for employees, and to be fair and consistent with employees.

- *Shift Scheduling:* We have been discussing ways to provide more options for shift scheduling that provide longer periods of personal time off for the employees, but still complete the mission of the division. We are hoping to come up with flexible shifting opportunities based upon the location of assignment and available manpower.

- *Technology Improvement:* We have been supporting Statewide Information Services in every way possible to push for some technological innovations such as the computerized Records Management System, the new APSIN, digital in-car video, total stations, photo-grammatry, electronic ticketing, and in-car computers. We are also working on network interoperability between criminal justice agencies.

ON THE HORIZON....

We are working on the birthing of an innovative plan that is complex and expensive, but may provide us the breathing

room we need to bring the division up to level we should be operating at while, at the same time, reducing the workload in three very politically sensitive areas.

These problem areas need to be addressed in a holistic manner not just in AST, but in the court system as well.

I'll ask the advice of detachment and bureau commanders in the near future. If – and that is a BIG “IF” – we get the buy-in and support from the governor’s office and the legislature, we just might have a chance to get out of the minus column up to even and then we can start working into the positive column and becoming proactive instead of reactive.

I cannot say any more about this because it is still secret. When we get this idea more fleshed out and get an indication from the governor that she is interested, we will begin a systematic “pedal-to-the-floor,” “hang-on-tight” year of planning, notification and education.

I want to say a little about the teamwork and attitude that I see every day. From the commissioner’s office through the directors and commanders, at every level, everyone finds the time to help their co-workers, whether it is giving advice, assisting physically or just listening. I have been totally impressed with the daily contacts I make here at headquarters and every time I get a chance to visit the posts and detachments.

Nobody has a defeatist attitude. Maybe you are all just too stubborn to give in, an attitude I very much agree with, or maybe you do not know any better, that you have not been told that you should just give up and quit soldiering on.

Whatever the case, you know that we still have an important mission and you refuse to give up on it, even though it seems futile. This is a windmill worth fighting.

In any case, we have a lot to accomplish on many big issues and they all require time, patience and diplomacy.

Now that you know this, I will save myself some future work.

In six months, when you want to know what we are doing, just pull up this message and read it again.

I will still be working on these issues and I will still be trying new ways to attack our problems. I will still be aggravating the majors and the commissioner’s office with suggestions, plans and ideas. I will still be looking for input and ideas from all of you because all of us know there is only one time to quit, *never*. ■

TROOPER ACADEMY GOES TO THE DOGS

BY BETH IPSEN, PIO



Academy attendees are, from left, Sitka Police Officer Mark Hake and German shepherd, Justice; Instructor Capt. Keith Mallard; Anchor Point Trp. Greg Pealatero and Belgium Malinois, Anchor; Palmer Trp. Pat Nelson and Belgium Malinois, Roelle; Instructor Sgt. Scott Johnson with German shepherd, Duncan; and Kenai Police Officer Aaron Turnage and German shepherd, Chevron. Not pictured is Fairbanks International Airport Officer Bev Moore and her yellow Labrador, Daisy.

Anchor, a trooper canine in training, knows more languages than many humans.

Besides knowing commands in German, the standard language for trained police dogs, the 3-year-old Belgium Malinois is originally from Holland and knows a few commands in Dutch.

His handler, Trp. Greg Pealatero stationed in Anchor Point, discovered the other language as Anchor's training to be a dual-certified police dog progressed.

Pealatero and other officers are learning a lot about their four-legged partner as the

nine-week Alaska State Troopers Canine Academy in Fairbanks goes along.

Others going through the training are Palmer Trp. Pat Nelson and his partner, a Belgium Malinois named Roelle; Sitka Police Officer Mark Hake and German shepherd, Justice; Kenai Police Officer Aaron Turnage and German shepherd, Chevron; and Fairbanks International Airport Officer Bev Moore and her yellow Labrador, Daisy. In addition, ABADE Inv. Joe Hazelaar attended the academy to not only train a new canine, Duncan, but also

learn how to become a canine instructor himself.

Roelle and Duncan were named after Hans Roelle and Troy Duncan, troopers

(Canines, continued on page 4)



Anchor Point Trp. Greg Pealatero and Belgium Malinois, Anchor, train at sniffing out drugs.



Palmer Trp. Pat Nelson helps his partner, Roelle, find a package of drugs hidden during training.

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killed in the line of duty. Their names, and that of Anchor, were selected out of suggestions made by children living in the areas where they'll be assigned.

Alaska State Troopers and Anchorage Police Department conduct the academies for all police departments in the state on an as-needed basis. The last trooper academy was in 2005.

One of the numerous benefits of having a canine officer is dogs have six times the psychological effect over regular uniformed officers, said Academy instructor Capt. Keith Mallard.

But ultimately, it's to make the human officers safer, regardless if it's the handler or other troopers on shift.

They're more effective in building searches and can sniff out suspects in areas where humans can't go. Their noses are more sensitive and therefore more effective in drug interdiction.

Pealater is also learning its not easy keeping up with the highly energetic Anchor.

"He can run a lot faster than I can," Pealater said.

Pealater was a canine handler while he served in the Army at Fort Richardson before becoming a trooper four years ago. Like Anchor, his previous dog was energetic. In addition, his previous animal partner knew commands in Czech.

The only command Anchor and the other four-legged officers in the most recent canine academy know in English is "stand still." This command serves a dual purpose while ordering both the dog and suspect to stay put.

However, it's the high-pitched screeching, "That's a Good Boy" that is most noticeable to both humans and dogs.

The words are a way of rewarding the dogs of a good job.

That reward system is at the nucleus of a dogs' training. This connection establishes the task of detecting drugs as more fun than work for the dogs.

The four different types of drugs the dogs are trained to detect – methamphetamines, marijuana, cocaine and heroin – are first hidden in a toy to help dogs become familiar with the different odors.

That ability is then built upon as the training goes along. Drugs that were once left out in the open are hidden in more concealed places until dogs are detecting the



Fairbanks International Airport Police Officer Bev Moore and her yellow Lab, Daisy, attend the academy.

illegal substances in more realistic places, such as in closets and cars.

All but one dog going through the training will emerge dual certified in both drug detection and patrol abilities. Daisy will be used strictly for drug detection at the Fairbanks International Airport.

Daisy was actually Moore's pet before enrolling in the academy. The yellow lab was first tested to see if she had the traits to become a detection dog before starting the academy.

The other dogs going through the training were purchased strictly for joining the law enforcement ranks. Like most canine officers, they were born in Europe.

Roelle and Duncan were purchased with funds provided by the Public Safety Employees Association and the money for Anchor came from drug seizures.

The other dogs will also be used for



Duncan is in training to become a drug detection dog.

tracking people and suspect apprehension.

In tracking either suspects or even lost people, they measure ground disturbance from the last known point where the person was spotted. For example, the dogs will pick up a trail by gauging how much of the material, such as gravel or grass, has been moved by a person's step.

After graduation from the academy – which is scheduled for mid-July – the dogs will live with their handlers just like a normal pet. The only difference is when it's time to go to work.

"He's a very social dog," Pealater said. "He's just as affectionate as a house dog." ■



Roelle and Trp. Pat Nelson practice tracking.

BONDING OVER BULLETS FOR ANNUAL SHOOT

By MEGAN PETERS, PIO



Colonel Audie Holloway helps Superintendent Dave Shewchuck tally up his score after a round of shooting.



Superintendent Dave Shewchuck takes careful aim at his target during the first day of the Shoot. Shewchuck reclaimed the Commanders Trophy for the RCMPs.



RCMP Cst. Ian Fraser, right, watches Trp. Steve Lantz shoot his way through the tactical portion of the competition while Capt. Hans Brinke, left, walks up on the competition.

On Monday, June 4, 2007 Troopers met up with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, their rivals and defenders for the 47th International Law Enforcement Pistol Competition.

This year, the two-day event more commonly referred to as “The Shoot,” was held in Fairbanks.

The competition was formed shortly after Alaska became a state in 1959. Inspector Joe Vachon, RCMP commanding officer, wanted to find a way for the Mounties and the Troopers to strengthen their working partnership. A friendly shooting competition was thought to be the perfect way to start a bond. A year later, the first competition was held, starting

a lasting tradition between Troopers and RCMPs.

Every year the competition is different.

Day one is the actual competition. Each team makes up a “course” with segments made up with a combination of time, distance, weapon-type, precision and capabilities.

For example, at 15 meters and using the weak hand, draw your weapon, fire 10 shots — six to the body and four to the head — in 15 seconds.

Day two is the tactical shoot. The tactical shoot is more of an obstacle course and is considered the “fun part.”

This year, the tactical shoot started at

the top of a hill with a sniper rifle. The competitors had to take aim at a single balloon surrounded by many “hostage” balloons, all blowing in the wind. They had only one chance to shoot their target. After the shot, the competitors had four minutes to dispose of all the targets set up in the course.

A bit of history plays into part of the competition as well.

During the competition, Troopers and Mounties exchange service weapons as part of each course.

For 47 years, it has served as a way for Troopers and Mounties to form a lasting bond of friendship and brotherhood.

This relates to a case years ago where the Mounties and Troopers were working together to track down a suspect near Hyder, a border community in Southeastern Alaska with a neighboring

Canadian community just across the international line.

Policy prevented the trooper from using his service weapon in Canada when the trooper crossed the border. The Mounties had to provide him with one of their weapons to use during the apprehension.

The Shoot — though revolving around a pistol competition, really has little to do with “shooting.”

Instead, for 47 years, it has served as a way for Troopers and Mounties to form a lasting bond of friendship and brotherhood.

To drive that point home, upon asking the competitors “who has won the most Shoots,” the only response was a series of shrugged shoulders followed by, “I don’t know.”

This year the RCMPs took home the bragging rights — again.

However, according to the AST team, the victory wasn’t really a victory but rather Troopers allowing the Mounties to “feel good about themselves.”

RCMPs won the competition, the “Top Gun” and the Commander’s trophy. Both, however, took home an instilled sense of camaraderie. The bragging rights will probably never actually be used other than a few quick references to having trophies that took up too much room in the luggage — or

(The Shoot, continued on page 6)

HOLLOWAY SETS HIS SIGHTS ON NEXT YEAR'S COMPETITION

Dear Disappointed Colleagues, On June 4-5, representatives of AST/AWT (aka the He-done-ites) engaged in a pitched battle with the evil and warlike Canadians (aka Caananites) on the plains of Fairbanks (aka the beautiful gardens of Babylon). Unfortunately, in many people's eyes (the people who were laughing in the hallways), due to the poor shooting abilities of the chief hedonist, the Canadians prevailed in all categories.

We did, however, receive the good citizenship award, for showing up and politely and respectfully allowing the Canadians to whip up on us in a bad way. Those who were laughing and those team members who tried so hard to win and nearly did, fail to see that the Canadians were merely being lulled in to a false sense of security.

As my mentor, Inspector Clouseau once said, "And now, Cato, I have you right where I want you."



Colonel Audie Holloway takes aim during the tactical portion of The Shoot.

Seriously though, I learned that this competition was very important to both agencies. I think it is a bit of tradition and history that needs to continue, and I think that many more employees need to have the opportunity to participate over the next few years.

Capt. Hans Brinke put a whole lot of work into this competition and deserves a great deal of thanks for setting it up. He and I discussed some ideas to get more people involved. We will compose those ideas and

get them out shortly.

The spouses of the shooting team members also deserve a great deal of thanks for all the effort they put in to making this a successful effort. After seeing some of them shoot, maybe they should take my position next year.

Not only was it an event to improve inter-agency relations, it was a wonderful social occasion. Sometimes you cannot put a price on the importance of spending some time with your fellow employees and friends. And it only gets better when you get to shoot guns and watch airplanes.

I encourage all of you to keep up your shooting skills just for taking care of yourself, your colleagues, your families, and the citizens of this state. And if you are interested, improve those skills and take part in the competition. You won't be sorry, unless I am on your team. And I found out that the plastic toy gun actually shoots pretty well.
- Col. Audie Holloway ■



Sgt. Odean Hall gets a hand from his teammate, Trp. Nathan Duce, as he dangles balloon bundles for the tactical shoot. During The Shoot, competitors drew a balloon color and batch number. Shooters were only given one shot with a sniper rifle to "kill" their colored balloon. The wind made this a hard task.

The Shoot, continued from page 5

so the Trooper team can hope. The drive behind The Shoot is truly the competitors and their spouses. They all came together to help set up each course, act as field judges, plan barbeques, gather door prizes and find sponsors. Spouses even came out to watch the teams and offer up support.

This year's Trooper team included **Col. Audie Holloway, Sgt. Odean Hall, Sgt. Tim Schoenberg, Inv. Steve Lantz, Trp. Brent Johnson, Trp. Nathan "Duck of Death" Duce and Trooper Chad Goeden.**

The team's ace is easily singled out as Schoenberg, who brought home three small

trophies for his performance on the range.

The RCMP team included Superintendent Dave Shewchuck, Sgt. Randy Fraser, Cpl. Glenn Ramsay, Cpl. Harland Inkster, Cst. Ian Fraser, Cst. Ryan Hack and Cst. Derek Turner. Cst. Ryan Hack was the top shooter for the RCMPs and helped to lead his teammates to victory.

Planning for next year's Shoot is already underway. RCMPs will host the 48th Annual competition in either Dawson City or Whitehorse, Yukon. If you are interested in joining the team and helping Troopers win the trophy or interested in assisting in any way, contact Capt. Hans Brinke at headquarters. ■



RCMP Cpl. Harland Inkster settles into position during the tactical portion of competition.



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PROMOTIONS

AST and AWT Colonels Audie Holloway and Gary Folger announced the following promotions:

• **Corporal Shane Nicholson** of Sitka Academy to sergeant of the Sitka Academy. Nicholson began his career with the Alaska State Troopers in August 1999 at the academy. After graduating the academy he was assigned to E Detachment, Soldotna patrol.

In February 2002, he transferred to the General Investigations Unit in Soldotna. In July 2002, he transferred to A Detachment in Ketchikan. He was promoted to his position as Corporal at the Sitka Academy in April 2006.

• **Trooper Gary Webb** of A Detachment in Ketchikan to sergeant in Ketchikan. Webb is an Alaska State Trooper currently assigned as a patrol trooper in Ketchikan.

Trooper Webb has a total of 21 years of military and police experience. In September 1996, Webb was hired by the Alaska State Troopers and attended the Department of Public Safety Academy in Sitka. After graduation he was assigned to D Detachment at the Fairbanks Post where he completed his field training program. Shortly after completing the Field Training Program, Webb applied for and was accepted into the Special Emergency Reaction Team. During his tour of duty at the Fairbanks Post, Webb was assigned as the Officer in Charge on numerous occasions. In June 1998, Webb transferred to his current position in Ketchikan.

Webb received numerous awards including A Detachment Trooper of the Year in 1999.

• **Investigator John K. Brown** of N Detachment in Ketchikan to sergeant of A Detachment in Klawock. Brown began

his career with the Alaska State Troopers at the academy in September 1996. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to D Detachment Fairbanks Post. In January 1999, he transferred to Homer where he was responsible for the VPSO program and was a D.A.R.E. officer. He transferred to Ketchikan in July 2001 and worked on patrol. In September 2002, he became an investigator assigned to SEANET in Ketchikan.

Brown has extensive training to include D.A.R.E. training, sexual assault response training, covert operations and methamphetamine crime lab training to name a few.

• **Lieutenant Steve Bear** of AWT at E Detachment/Kenai P.W.S. to major of AWT at the Director's Office in Anchorage, effective April 16, 2007. Bear began his law enforcement career in Recruit Class 40, in 1990. After graduation his first duty station was Fairbanks where he worked in patrol and burglary suppression AST. He was also a member of SERT. He transferred to Delta Junction patrol on March 15, 1994. In February 1997, he transferred to Soldotna patrol and was a member of the Tracking Team. He was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in 1999. In August 2000, Bear transferred to the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection in Juneau as the Deputy Commander of A Detachment. In 2002, Bear he was promoted to lieutenant in Soldotna where was stationed at the time of his promotion to the deputy director of the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Bear is a 2004 graduate of the FBI National Academy, Class 219.

• **Lieutenant Burke Waldron** at the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers, Director's Office to Captain, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers and Operations

Commander of the Director's Office, effective May 1, 2007. Waldron began his law enforcement career with the Division of Alaska State Troopers June 3, 1990 as a Trooper Recruit. Upon his completion of the academy he was assigned to D Detachment in Fairbanks on Sept. 1, 1990 for his Field Training Officer Program. On May 18, 1991 Waldron transferred to A Detachment in Ketchikan. He later transferred to B Detachment at the Valdez Post on Jan. 16, 1994. On Sept. 16, 1997 he transferred divisions from the State Troopers to Fish and Wildlife Protection. He transferred to Anchorage Jan. 1, 2002. He began his acting investigator status with the Wildlife Investigation Unit and was promoted to sergeant of the unit on Dec. 17, 2002. It was later merged with the Division of Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Bureau of Investigation in the Wildlife Investigation Unit. He promoted to Lieutenant and Deputy Commander of ABI on Sept. 1, 2005. He then transferred to the Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement on Feb. 1, 2007.

• **Sergeant Glenn Godfrey** of Alaska Wildlife Troopers at E Detachment/Kenai P.W.S. to lieutenant of Alaska Wildlife Troopers and Commander of E Detachment/Kenai P.W.S. effective May 1, 2007. Godfrey began his law enforcement career as a Fish and Wildlife Aide with the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection May 27, 1995 in Seward. He transferred to Anchorage Oct. 16, 1995. He promoted to State Trooper Recruit Sept. 14, 1996. After attending the Training Academy he was stationed at C Detachment in Kodiak Jan. 6, 1997. On Nov. 16, 2000 he transferred to Anchorage. He was promoted to sergeant on Aug. 16, 2002 and transferred to E Detachment, Soldotna Post. ■

SUCCESSFUL BIDS

Colonel Audie Holloway announced the following successful bidders:

Trooper Vance Peronto, Kotzebue, C Detachment, is the successful bidder for ABADE MOU in Anchorage

Trooper Garrett Willis, St. Mary's, C Detachment, is the successful bidder for Cooper Landing in E Detachment.

Trooper Maurizio Salinas, Tok, D Detachment, is the successful bidder for Delta Junction in D Detachment.

Trooper Nasruk Nay, Delta Junction, D Detachment, is the successful bidder for ABADE WAANT in Dillingham.

Sgt. Rick Roberts, Sitka, Academy, is the successful bidder for Fairbanks in D Detachment.

Trooper Howard Peterson, Palmer, B Detachment, is the successful bidder for Girdwood in E Detachment.

Trooper Harold Miller III, Kotzebue, C Detachment, is the successful bidder Healy in D Detachment.

Trooper John K. Brown, Ketchikan, A Detachment, is the successful bidder for Klawock in A Detachment.

Trooper Terry Shepherd, Anchorage, C Detachment, is the successful bidder for Kotzebue in C Detachment.

Trooper David Bower, Talkeetna, B Detachment, is the successful bidder for Palmer in B Detachment.

Trooper Neal Fulks, Emmonak, C Detachment, is the successful bidder for Seward in E Detachment.

Trooper Joshua Rallo, Bethel, C Detachment, is the successful bidder for Tok in D Detachment.

Trooper John Williamson, Fairbanks, D Detachment, is the successful bidder for Emmonak in C Detachment.

Trooper Elizabeth Haddad, Soldotna, E Detachment, is the successful bidder for Glennallen in B Detachment.

Trooper Benjamin Mank, Palmer, B Detachment, is the successful bidder for Kotzebue in C Detachment.

Trooper Aaron Meyer, Palmer, B Detachment, is the successful bidder for Kotzebue in C Detachment.

Trooper Joseph Harris, Fairbanks, D Detachment, is the successful bidder for

Delta Junction in D Detachment.

Trooper Shayne Calt, Palmer, B Detachment, is the successful bidder for Talkeetna in B Detachment.

Trooper James Kimura, Palmer, B Detachment, is the successful bidder for Ketchikan in A Detachment.

Trooper John M. Brown, Kotzebue ABADE, is the successful bidder for ABADE in Ketchikan.

Trooper Henry Ching, Fairbanks, D Detachment, is the successful bidder for Bethel in C Detachment.

Colonel Gary Folger announced the following successful bidders:
Trooper John Cyr, Soldotna, E Detachment AST, is the successful bidder for AWT in Palmer in B Detachment.

Trooper Joseph Whittom, Bethel, C Detachment AST, is the successful bidder for AWT in Anchorage at B Detachment.

Trooper John Holm, King Salmon, C Detachment AST, is the successful bidder for AWT in Dutch Harbor at C Detachment. ■

FOND FAREWELLS

CLAUDIA MUSHKIN RETIRES FROM STATEWIDE SERVICES



Claudia Mushkin enjoys an emotional retirement party May 30 after 22 years with the DPS Statewide Services. Claudia was at DPS for the first microcomputers and has seen numerous technological advances since.

Claudia Mushkin retired after 22 years of service with Information Systems. When Claudia started with the Department of Public Safety in the mid 1980's DPS Headquarters had a mini computer system called the Wang. It was primarily used for data processing.

Claudia was here when DPS staff received their first microcomputers to replace their 3270 terminal emulators. The computers used Irma cards to connect to the mainframe and Wang cards to connect to the Wang. To bring the department into new technology she helped design the first LAN (local area network) which, with her assistance, developed into our current WAN (wide area network) system.

She also boasts of keeping her original PIN number throughout her career despite taking other numerous changes throughout the years in stride.

Claudia has been the supervisor for network and microcomputer support personnel. She setup up the current DPS support help desk. In addition, she handled procurement of both network and microcomputer equipment. To assist in system design, installation and troubleshooting problems, Claudia often visited outlying Trooper offices. Claudia plans to travel to the lower 48 for the next several months and then will return to Anchorage after visiting friends and family.

Claudia was the key person for all projects that involved anything to do with networking and microcomputers for DPS. She was an integral part of Statewide Services and it will be difficult to replace her skill, dedication and institutional knowledge.

We wish her well with her retirement and hope that she will keep in touch with the many friends she has made during her 22 year tenure. ■

THE DUKE RETIRES AFTER 27 YEARS

The retirement celebration for Lt. Nelson "Duke" Ballard went from a surprise party to a barbecue at C Detachment Headquarters on the beautiful day that was his last in the trooper uniform.

Duke uncharacteristically said little as commanders handed over awards June 15, including a replica of the saber troopers wore when Duke began his career over 27 years ago. Actually, the saber is a replica of one used as a Calvary service weapon for troopers in 1860.

The saber was engraved and given to Duke by Lt. Nils Monsen, supervisor of Judicial Services, a position Duke had filled earlier in his career.

After a stint in the U.S. Air Force, Duke started his career with the Alaska State Troopers as a recruit on March 17, 1980. He graduated from the recruit class on June 8, 1980 and went through his field training at the Fairbanks detachment.

Duke promoted to full-fledged trooper on March 16, 1981.

On Nov. 16, 1981, he transferred to Nome, and then transferred to the Palmer post on June 16, 1992. While there, he was promoted to sergeant on July 1, 1997. He was promoted to first sergeant and transferred to Bethel in the fall of 1999.

He reclassified to lieutenant while in



Lt. Nils Monsen, right, shows soon-to-be retired Lt. Nelson "Duke" Ballard the inscription on a replica saber the current judicial services supervisor gave to Nelson, who had held the same position for a few years during his 27-year career with Alaska State Troopers. Ballard retired June 15.

Bethel on Aug. 16, 2003. He transferred to Anchorage on Sept. 16, 2003.

He was serving as the deputy commander of C Detachment at the time of his retirement.

Duke served on the SERT team from July 1981 to November 1982 and again from 1993 to 1999.

Commanders praised Duke for his

willingness to tackle any task, even up to the very end. Duke fielded public complaints on his last day of work June 15, showing the can-do attitude that he exhibited throughout his varied career during his various assignments even in remote posts.

Duke's wife Donna, son Jordan and daughters Kayla, Mackenzie and Cristy also attended the retirement party. ■

CSO PAT LISS RETIRES

On Monday April 30, 2007, Court Services Officer Patricia Liss retired from public service where she had served for nearly 15 years.

Pat began public service in 1988 when she joined the Juneau Police Department in an administrative support capacity. In 1992, she became a Juneau Police Officer where she served until May 1993. Pat then served as a Department of Corrections Correctional Officer for a short period before joining the Alaska State Troopers as a court services officer in Anchorage in December 1994.

Pat served as an airport police officer for a 10-month period beginning May 2002, and then returned as a court service officer until her retirement in May.

Pat served with honor and distinction during her tenure as a court services officer. She also served as a CSO Field Training Officer, an FTO coordinator and an Officer In Charge while serving in Anchorage. Liss performed with excellence and will be missed.

On Friday April 27 a dinner party was



CSO Pat Liss receives her FOAST plaque from retired trooper Sgt Barry Ingalls.

held at the Lone Star Restaurant where family and friends gathered to celebrate her retirement. The turnout was overflowing.

In addition to receiving her retirement credentials and Department and FOAST retirement plaques, Pat received gift certificates

to include a visit to a spa, a couple of special restaurants and golf lessons...and a heartfelt farewell from one and all.

We thank Pat for the service she provided and the friendships she made along the way. ■

ACADEMY CLASSMATES BOTH RETIRE 21 YEARS LATER

Academy classmates **Lt. Brandon Anderson** and **Trp. Mitch Doerr** ended their DPS careers on the same day 21 years later.

The pair's career with DPS began by graduating in Recruit Class No. 40 on Aug. 31, 1990.

Prior to that, Anderson was a Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officer in Fairbanks in May 1986 and Doerr was a Fish and Wildlife Officer in Palmer starting in 1985.

Anderson joined the blueshirts ranks and in June of 1992, was transferred to Seward where he was promoted to sergeant in 1997.

He was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to Anchorage HQ as Special Projects Lieutenant for the Division of Operations in September of 2005.

Anderson was involved in many unique programs during his career. One in particular is the Alaska Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics.

In 2003, he traveled to Europe and participated in the Final Leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run leading up to the World Special Olympics.

Doerr became a full-fledged trooper on March 16, 1990 and transferred to Cordova the next year. He then transferred to Anchorage Wildlife Investigations in 1994. He was promoted to sergeant and transferred to Big Lake in 1998.

In 2000, Doerr voluntarily took a



Trp. Mitch Doerr, right, was given a framed nautical chart of the Aleutian Chain with the P/V Stimson and his badge painted on it by Janet Waldron, wife of Lt. Burke Waldron, standing left.

demotion to trooper and transferred to an investigation position in Anchorage. He transferred to Dutch Harbor in 2004.

Doerr collected several awards during his career. He was named the Shikar Safari Club International Wildlife Officer of the Year in 2002 and won the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Investigative Excellence Award for Local Police the same year.

Doerr retirement party was June 1, 2007 at the Sourdough Mining Company.

At his retirement party, Doerr was given a framed nautical chart of the Aleutian Chain with the P/V Stimson and his badge painted on it by Janet Waldron. Maj. Steve Bear presented his badge plaque with his department career history. Afterwards, Colonel Gary Folger gave Doerr his retired ID card and flat badge.



Retiring Lt. Brandon Anderson can't wait to dig into his retirement cake at his retirement ceremony May 31 at DPS headquarters in Anchorage.

Joining Mitch's luncheon was his classmate, Anderson, who retired the on the same day.

Many stories were told at the luncheon. ■

MILLER SEES BLUE AT RETIREMENT PARTY

On May 5, D Detachment celebrated the retirement of **Sgt. Robert Miller**. Family, friends and co-workers gathered for a potluck held in the conference room at detachment headquarters in Fairbanks.

Miller started his career with the Alaska State Troopers in April of 1984. His first assignment was in Anchorage and from there he transferred to Kotzebue and finally Fairbanks.

Miller worked at Judicial Services in the courthouse for his last year and a half.

There was an amazing cake made by Lynn Groves Kelly, who works as a clerk at the courthouse. The trooper hat is actually made of cake and the badge is frosting. ■



Sgt. Robert Miller holds up his retirement plaque during his retirement ceremony at D Detachment May 5.



Lynn Groves Kelly made this trooper hat cake and badge frosting for Miller's retirement.

SITKA TRAINING ACADEMY

32 GRADUATE FROM ACADEMY BY LT. JIM HELGOE

On June 7, 2007, the Alaska Law Enforcement Training Session 37 graduated from the Department of Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka. The graduation ceremony was held at the Sheldon Jackson College gymnasium at 1 p.m.

This graduating class includes 32 graduates from many different departments in Alaska, and a non-sponsored individual hoping for a career in Alaska law enforcement.

A special "Thank You" to all the dignitaries who attended. They were: DPS Commissioner Walt Monegan and his wife, Terry; Capt. Hans Brinke, AST Division Operations; Capt. Burke Barrick, AST D Detachment Commander; Maj. Jane Lawrey, Commander of Alaska National Guard Counter Drug Support Program;



Terry Vrabec, Executive Director of Alaska Police Standards Council, swears in the graduating class of the Department of Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka on June 7.

Jeff Johnston, Director of the University of Alaska Southeast-Sitka Campus; Chief Lauri Burkmire, Anchorage Airport

Fire and Police; Dave Tyler, Director of Fire Prevention; Rusty Belanger, Assistant Director of Fire Prevention; Lloyd Nakano, Deputy Fire Marshall; Terry Vrabec, Executive Director of Alaska Police Standards Council; Luci Christopher, Alaska Police Standards Council; Chief Greg Browning, Juneau Police Department; Deputy Chief Josh Dossett, Ketchikan Police Department; Commander John G. Turner, USCG Sitka commander; Chief William Comer, Valdez Police; and Deputy Chief Mike McGinnis, Anchorage Airport Fire and Police.

Our civilian staff made this graduation a success with their outstanding support. A special thanks to Mike Leccese, Jaye Forst, Dawn Barragan and Beth Carbillon. Without you I don't know what us commissioned guys would do. Thank you. ■



The Alaska Law Enforcement Training Session 37 graduates and academy instructors at the graduation ceremony.



People line up to congratulate the latest graduating class of the Department of Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka on June 7.

GRADUATES

Richard Ackerman, Skagway Police
 Scott Bartlett, AST
 Daniel Brom, AST
 Michael Butts, Anchorage Airport Police and Fire
 Michael Carpenter, AST
 Daniel Cheshire, Juneau Police
 Jeremy Conkling, Valdez Police
 Victor Dillon, Soldotna Police
 Levi Duell, AST
 Alison Eskelin, State Parks Service
 Kevin Francesco, Fairbanks Airport Police and Fire
 Nicholas Garza, self pay
 Joshua Henry, Anchorage Airport Police and Fire
 Yvonne Howell, AST
 Dustin Huf, Anchorage Airport Police and Fire
 Charles Inderrieden, AST
 Charles Johnson, Ketchikan Police
 Daniel Juarez, Anchorage Airport Police and Fire
 James Knott, Homer Police
 Craig Lewis, Fairbanks Airport Police and Fire
 Jimmy Lindberg, AST
 Jamethon Luther, Fairbanks Airport Police and Fire
 Donald Metzger, Valdez Police
 Teddy Nordgaarden, AST
 John Pernel, Fairbanks Airport Police and Fire
 Timothy Putney, Kodiak Police
 Nathan Rocheleau, Fire Marshal's Office
 Sterling Salisbury, Juneau Police
 Dustin Schmidt, Anchorage Airport Police and Fire
 Ian Thomas, State Parks Service
 Michael Wise, Juneau Police
 Jarrod Worley, Juneau Police

NEW FACES IN THE RANKS



Recruit Scott Bartlett
Palmer post



Recruit Daniel Brom
Fairbanks post



Recruit Michael Carpenter
Palmer post



Recruit Levi Duell
Soldotna post



Recruit Yvonne Howell
Fairbanks post



Recruit Teddy Nordgaarden
Soldotna post



Recruit Jimmy Lindberg
Palmer post



Recruit Charles Inderrieden
Fairbanks post

WELCOME ABOARD

ACADEMY SAYS FARWELL TO SGT. ROBERTS

BY LT. JIM HELGOE

This was Sgt. Rick Roberts last ALET class as he has been awarded a position in Fairbanks. Roberts was promoted to Corporal here in Sitka July 16, 2002. Roberts then promoted to Sergeant here Aug. 16, 2004.

His first day in Fairbanks will be Aug. 1, 2007. Sgt. Roberts has done a great job here and I'm sure he will be an asset to D Detachment.

After lowering the colors the last time for ALET No. 37, Lt. Helgoe presented Sgt. Roberts with a plaque thanking him for his constant professionalism, dedication and superior work ethic. Few men possess the qualities Sgt. Roberts has. He will be missed.

Taking Sgt. Roberts' place will be Sgt. Shane Nicholson. Sgt. Nicholson recently promoted to Sergeant from Corporal here at the academy. Sgt. Nicholson has large shoes to fill but I know he will do a great job. Sgt. Nicholson has great leadership abilities and will be a huge asset in his new role as the Deputy Commander of the Academy.

Trooper Basic Course No. 25 began June 11, 2007. That's the weekend directly after ALET graduation so there is no break.

Attending this course are eight State Trooper Recruits from ALET #37, two State Troopers who "B" listed or lateral hired over from municipal law enforcement agencies



Academy Commander Lt. Jim Helgoe, right, presents a plaque to Sgt. Rick Roberts, thanking him for his constant professionalism, dedication and superior work

and one other State Trooper. The Trooper Basic Course runs non-stop until they all leave June 29, 2007.

I have to admit, having the finest staff working with me here in Sitka makes this the best place to work. Thank you Cpl. Scott Carson, Cpl. Grant Miller, Cpl. Moose Sims, Cpl. Ralf Lysdahl, and last (but certainly not least) Cpl. Tony Wegrzyn. You guys are awesome. ■

SUBLEGAL MOOSE

A young moose ended up in the back of Soldotna Trp. Kyle Carson's patrol car in May.

Carson rescued the baby moose from where it was stranded on the wrong side of the Kenai Spur Hwy at about 4 mile. The calf kept trying to cross the highway, causing a road hazard.

Carson tried to get it to go into the woods, however it kept coming out and trying to cross the highway. Carson contacted Fish and Game, who suggested he either dispatch it or move it. Carson decided to help the calf out because it wasn't injured. Eventually he put it in the back of his patrol car, drove it across the road to a wooded area and set the calf free near a set of moose tracks.

When he checked the area the next



It must have been hard to handcuff this little bugger.

day, he found a fresh set of moose tracks – presumably the mother – and the calf was gone.

While rescuing a moose calf is not uncommon for troopers, this is the first time Carson has had one in the back of his patrol car. ■

ALASKA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

If you can make it to April you know that you have made it through another Alaska Winter. As some would say there's "light at the end of the tunnel." Here at Palmer ABI there's a different light – "A Light of Hope" since April has been proclaimed to be Child Abuse Awareness Month.

The Light of Hope is an award given to persons in the community that have gone the extra mile to help fight child abuse and neglect. According to the state's Office of Children's Services, Alaska had 9,411 reports of harm in 2006, one of the highest child abuse rates in the nation.

Among the well deserved recipients was Palmer ABI's own, **Inv. Shannon Fore**. **Fore** was presented with a plaque as well as letters of congratulations from Senator Ted Stevens, Representative Don Young and Palmer Representative Carl Gatto.

The Light of Hope Award presented to **Inv. Shannon Fore** on April 1, 2007.

Fore along with **Inv. Curtis Vik** and



Inv. Shannon Fore receives the Light of Hope award from **Mat-Su Borough Mayor Dianne Keller** and **Emcee John Klapperich**.

Inv. Mark Granda have been teaming up with Alaska Wildlife Troopers and other B Detachment Troopers for a bit of patrol time at Jim Creek. Jim Creek is known for its scenic trails and great fishing parties, more parties and vandalism. As a deterrent, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received a grant to patrol the Jim Creek area. Hopefully cutting down on the shooting, partying and general lawlessness of the Jim Creek Area. The Patrol has been a great success.

Here's just one example of the positive outcome. **Inv. Fore** was on patrol with **Trp. Louis Nueves** of B Detachment. They

came across what looked like an abandoned truck on the flats where Jim Creek connects with the Knik River. When **Inv. Fore** went to check on the truck he noticed a male slumped over in the driver's seat. The gentleman had overdosed on drugs. They contacted Life Flight and the male was



ABI Sgt. Michael Burkmire dozes a road in the snow at a property in Portage that investigators recovered approximately \$150,000 in stolen heavy equipment. The bulldozer was stolen, as was a travel trailer.



This moped was on the losing end of a battle with **Burkmire** and the dozer.

medically evacuated, saving his life. Good Job boys!

In other news, **ABI Sgt. Mike Burkmire** practiced his Dozer driving skills at a Portage property. There Investigators, along with the Major Offenders Unit and the ABADE Unit recovered about \$150,000.00 dollars in stolen heavy equipment. If anyone is missing



Inv. Michelyn Grigg was given the task of shopping for a confidential informant. As you can see from the picture she found the perfect shirt.

a MOPED motor cycle, contact **Burkmire** at 746-9111. He might have a smashing idea on how to find it.

For the last couple of months it has been a two-man show in Soldotna.

Well, actually it's more like **Beavus and Butthead**, but **Sgt. Fowler** and **Inv. Scott Briggs** somehow managed. They would have never made it without the help of **Inv. Michelyn Grigg's** shopping expertise.

COLD CASE

Members of the Cold Case Unit have been busy. A few months ago, **John Carlin**

(ABI, continued on page 14)



Inv. Mark Granda rides a 4-wheeler in the Knik River while patrolling the Jim Creek Area.

ABI, continued from page 13

III was convicted of first-degree murder for killing Kent Lepink near Hope in 1996. Carlin's suspected accomplice, Michele Hughes, is scheduled to stand trial this fall.

They also got a conviction on the 1997 murder of Gretchen Saywer near Glenallen. A jury convicted Derek Saywer of first-degree murder. The team is awaiting extradition of Kenneth Dion from New Hampshire. Dion was recently indicted by a grand jury for first-degree murder and sexual assault in the 1994 killing of Bonnie Craig.

In January, the Cold Case Unit added Ret. Sgt. Jim Gallen to the team. There's rumor that a couple more positions my be

added to the cold case unit, but again that's only rumor.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Palmer ABI welcomes **Trp. Chris Long** to the Valley family. If in Anchorage say congratulations to **Troopers Kim Waychoff** and **Mark Granda**. **Inv. Waychoff** comes to ABI from Alaska Wildlife Troopers and **Inv. Granda** flew all the way from Juneau.

Congratualtions to **Vernie "Eugene" Fowler** who was promoted to sergeant over the Soldotna ABI Unit. Soldotna also welcomes **Inv. Terrance Shannigan** and **Trp. Mike Guymon**. In Fairbanks ABI welcomed **Inv. Mark Eldridge**. ABI also has a new Leutenant, **Dave Tugmon** took over the Deputy Commander position. **Lt. Tugmon** comes to ABI from Klawock. ■



The Cold Case Unit added Ret. Sgt. Jim Gallen to the team in January.

JUDICIAL SERVICES

THE FITNESS CHALLENGE

By Lt. Nils Monsen, JS Supervisor

Anchorage Judicial Services recently took on a physical exercise challenge, mustering a five-man team to participate in the nationwide "911 Fitness Challenge" that came up victorious in Alaska, and a fourth place finish in the 10-State Western region.

It all started in the Anchorage JS squad room with **Mike Addington** seeking out would-be competitors and encouraging the development of a team. The team joined the nationwide fitness challenge program requiring a commitment to vigorous exercise and disciplined dieting for a 90-day period.

Mike had trouble selling the idea of pain and deprivation and enlisted co-conspirator **Dave Herrell**. The duo succeeded in recruiting **August "AJ" Bergman**, **Tyronne Chisholm** and myself, **Nils Monsen**, all with the promise of fame and fortune.

We paid our entry fee, had the team picture taken outside with scant clothing, while braving 10-below zero temperatures. Then it was off to the races, or at least the gym.

We came up with the imaginative team name: "Five Below."

The official weigh-in on Jan. 12 involved the caliper pinch tests and a warning from officials that a loss in muscle mass would



Back row, from left to right, Lt. Nils Monsen, Sgt. Dave Herrel, Tyronne Chisolm, and front row, August "A.J." Bergman and Mike Addington flex their muscles in the after photo for the "911 Fitness Challenge" the physical exercise challenge Anchorage Judicial Services participated in and came out on top for the state and sixth in the region.

result in the disqualification of the team. This meant you could not simply diet but would be required to workout daily with the necessary intensity to build muscle and with the stamina to loose fat.

This of course would require a modification of the carb and protein intake, all of which seemed a rather unpleasant undertaking.

On April 12, the program ended and the

(JS, continued on page 15)

JS, continued from page 14

weigh-in and measurements were completed. After 90 days and some welcomed belt cinching, it was time to relax and enjoy some sorely missed soul food.

The weigh-in produced a team percentage beyond everyone's expectation and created some excitement when we learned we were within range of taking the gold – at least in our 10-state region.

After a week of waiting, the call came in that told us we were first place in our region. The prize entailed a three-day trip to Las Vegas, room at the MGM Hotel, premium seats at the Ultimate Fighting Championship and a \$5,000 dollar check delivered in the infamous fighting stage, the Octagon.

We were all thinking about the great time we were about to have when we received the follow-up call a couple of

days later informing us there had been a math error and our dreams of winning were crushed.

However, we did outpace the teams in Alaska and came in fourth in the region, which is still a very respectable showing and a victory by anyone's measure.

In the end, it was still a worthy experience. Maybe we'll try it again next year now that we understand the level of commitment required. ■

ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOPERS

AWT ADDS WATER SAFETY SURVIVAL INSTRUCTORS

BY SGT. BERNARD CHASTAIN, AWT

Chances are that at some point during your law enforcement career you will work on or around the water.

For most officers in Alaska, this will occur on a daily basis.

Three questions to ponder are: are you prepared to work around water, will you be able to stay alive in the water and fight an aggressive assailant and prevail, and could you keep yourself alive in the water as an officer in full duty gear if you end up in the water on the job?

AWT Sergeants **Bernard Chastain** and **Paul McConnell** recently returned from a three-day water safety survival instructor class in Shelton, Wash. The class was sponsored by the Washington State Patrol and held at their training academy.

The class was extremely demanding and both learned a lot about how to handle suspects near water environments.

The most applicable portion of the class was actual hands on defensive tactics and firearms training in the water. It became immediately apparent that the normal force continuum did not necessarily apply in a water encounter.

Learning how to move defensively, use the water to help you and not hinder your problem and being smarter about your encounter are all things that are essential in a water-borne fight for your life.

The class also covered life saving techniques for the assailant and your partner if he or she should go in the water.

Like most things in our job we have to decide in a split second if the person means



AWT Sgt. Paul McConnell, left, fights with a Clacamus County, Ore. Sheriff's Deputy while training to become a water safety survival instructor.

harm to us or if they need to be rescued. After all, when you are struggling in the water with the threat is it easy to decide if they are resisting arrest, panicking or drowning?

Chastain and McConnell are now certified to teach this class and both hope to get as many people as possible trained in the near future. It is amazing that with the amount of near and on water contacts troopers make on an annual basis that there are not more serious incidents

every year.

This class will teach the basics of dealing with hitting the water with an assailant on top of you, how to deal with the subject and how to successfully prevail in that situation. More than anything, it will give you the confidence to always be one step ahead of the bad guy.

Both of us look forward to developing this class into a standard training opportunity for our troopers. ■

2007 AWT ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE

BY CHRISTINE CHESNUT, AWT

The 2007 AWT Administrative Conference in Juneau was not only blessed with beautiful weather, but the conference began with adventure and mystery.

The first day we went to the Juneau Post where we were all introduced. Before the training began, someone mentioned that there was police tape across one of the hotel doors on the same floor that **Colonel Gary Folger**, **Major Steve Bear** and a few other clerks' rooms were located. We were all a little scared, but what could be better than to have the colonel and the major of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers there to protect all 13 of us women. But honestly, we were still a bit scared.

So the training began. Col. Folger and Maj. Bear started off the training with discussion on plans for AWT future. Inventory was the starting point. We discovered that some posts have started photo inventory books. This has proved to be helpful in many ways and is suggested for posts to ensure accurate records.

Before breaking for lunch, we discussed the Wildlife Safeguard program and road kills. **Kim Fassett** volunteered to assist with this program.

The STO was next providing new information for the upcoming year with **Lisa Emerson** assisting in financial information. **Mark Knight**, **Tish Forrest** and **Fred Schmitz** gave fiscal year end and FY08 procedures with a preview of what ALDER has to bring to DPS. ALDER appears to be very user friendly and everyone is anxious for the ease the program displayed.

Later that evening **Debbie Pound** of Payroll/Technical Services, **Carolyn Hall** from the Juneau post, **Todd Sharp** and his wife and Deputy Commissioner **John Glass** joined all of us for dinner. Great conversations were shared and memories of previous conferences were discussed.

The second day we toured the State Office Building. There was a military band performing during the lunch hour.

There were presentations given by Technical Services staff informing of payroll procedures, new OARS payroll and travel information.

We enjoyed lunch at The Hangar in downtown Juneau where we discovered that there was over 168 years of DPS experience combined between all of us.

Later that evening, we were able to attend a concert, "The Letterman." This was provided by the Alaska Peace Officers Association. They were kind enough to donate tickets with a surprise, we found ourselves at the door



AWT employees who attended the conference are, (back row) Diana Brost-Dutch Harbor, Sandy Belcher -Director's Office, Kim Fassett-Director's Office, Ann Porter-Vessel Section, Shelley Cubbedge-Kodiak, Colonel Folger-Director's Office, Kerry Bateman-Kodiak, Christine Chesnut-Aircraft Section, Major Bear-Director's Office, Dena Bronson-Soldotna, Vicki Maxell-Fairbanks. (Front Row) Allison Barkhurst-Wasilla, Anica Estes-Cordova, Audrey Ayay-DeHart-Palmer, Carolyn Hall-Juneau



The port in Juneau where AWT held its administrative conference.

volunteering to greet people.

While enjoying the performance we discovered we have a Frank Sinatra within A Detachment. I was asked not to mention names just to mention a "certain A Detachment AWT Commander." was given the microphone during a Frank Sinatra song and you would have never known it wasn't Frank Sinatra.

The third day we were given training on Workplace Alaska provided by Employee Services and staff. The Special Recruitment Unit gave information in regards to recruitments. They gave information on the training and procedure that is required to become a trooper. **Amanda Holland** then gave the final presentation which was induced by sugar but of course informative on classifications, position descriptions, and recruitment levels. We then traveled to the DPS HQ where we were able to meet the Juneau



The inside of the corridor of the State Office Building AWT administrative employees toured.

Fiscal staff and toured the Commissioner's office.

The mystery was finally solved at the end of the conference. After hours investigation by some of the highly trained Admin. Staff, they discovered that the fourth floor of our hotel had an unknown occupant. In fact, the tenant had been deceased for a week, hence the presence of Crime Scene tape. Apparently this hotel offers in depth house cleaning.

We appreciated all of the presentations, useful information, and all of the hard work **Sandy Belcher** put into the conference. Everyone enjoyed getting to know each other and many friendships were formed. Being the first conference I attended, one of the most amazing things I noticed is that these ladies believe in the DPS mission and believe it is their duty to assist in accomplishing that mission. ■

RECRUITMENT

BY LT. JEFF LAUGHLIN

First of all, we'd like to thank all of you in the field who have been sending applicants our way. A large percentage of our applicants tell us they heard about the Alaska State Troopers from our employees in the field. Many more tell us they applied because of the admiration they have from the men and women who wear the Stetson, protecting our citizen and our resources. Each of you are our best advertisers, and with your help, we'll do our part to fill the vacancies with the best men and women for the job.

We are in the middle of the interview process for the fall 2007 academy. We have high hopes of sending a great bunch of recruits to the academy in August. We would like to thank the committee members **Lt David Tracy, Lt. Tory Oleck, Sgt. Tom Dunn, Sgt. Andy Greenstreet** and **Trp. Tony Beck**. They have put in many hours making sure that we get the best possible applicant pool.

We would like to welcome **Retired Trp. Rae Marie Arno** to the Anchorage office and **Retired Trp. Mark Ridling** to the Soldotna Post as our new Background Investigators. They both bring many years of experience and knowledge and are great additions to the team.

Investigators **Bob Barnes** and **Loretta Mumford** are taking a well deserved break from the office. They worked very hard to make sure we met our timeline. Bob is off to Disney Land with his family, while Loretta is staying home with her son Tye this summer.

Inv. Dan Hickman has already starting investigations for the Spring 2008 process. Thank you for all your hard work, it hasn't gone unnoticed.

The Recruitment Unit has a new Recruitment vehicle, Cadillac Escalade. This 2003 Cadillac was forfeited to the State of



This nice ride, a 2003 Cadillac Escalade, was forfeited to the State of Alaska as a result of a felony DUI conviction and then turned over to the Alaska State Troopers to use as recruitment/special events vehicle.

Alaska as a result of a Felony DUI investigation and subsequent conviction. The State turned the Cadillac over to the Alaska State Troopers to use as a recruitment/special events vehicle. AST did not use any funds to acquire the Cadillac, but did invest a nominal amount of money to install emergency equipment and properly decal it. This investment allows the Troopers to not only use it for recruitment efforts, but to take enforcement action while we drive to and from events.

In its own subtle way, the Cadillac advertises the Alaska State Troopers' campaign against DUIs. Prominently displayed on rear, it reads: "DRINK. DRIVE. LOSE YOUR CADILLAC."

Recruitment is working on changing the recruitment process. We have historically done two processes every six months, but we are now looking to have quarterly processes. We hope this will bring on new recruits that may have taken a job with another law enforcement agency due to our process being so lengthy. We are excited about this

idea and hope to begin in September. We are also looking into a lateral hire process for out-of-state police officers and are working with the Academy to determine if the idea is feasible and in the best interest of the department.

Some of the other areas the Recruitment Unit is working on:

- Establishing a Retention Specialist
- Department payment of the Basic Certification fee
- Pre-academy hire of highly suitable applicants
- Establishing a statewide law enforcement recruitment effort
- Hiring an out-of-state recruiter (retired trooper of police officer)

As you can see, the folks in recruitment are working hard to improve our processes and find the very best candidates to fill our vacancies. Our goal is to work ourselves out of a job and with the help of all of you in the field, maybe we will.

Stay safe and have fun. ■



NEW INFORMATION OFFICER

Welcome Beth Ipsen to the Department of Public Safety.

Ipsen has been assigned to the Public Information Office of the Alaska State Troopers as an Information Officer II and Editor of the DPS Quarterly.

Ipsen brings knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to the job. She has many years of experience in print

news media – over four years as the public safety reporter at the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner and more than nine months as editor of The Arctic Sounder – and a working knowledge of law enforcement in Alaska.

She is also a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Please join us in welcoming her to our team. ■



DETACHMENT DISPATCH: NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE



A Detachment News

TORCH RUN IN PETERSBURG

BY TROOPER CODY LITSTER

The Special Olympics Torch run got off to an early start in Petersburg. Like many communities across the state, which turned out to support Special Olympics, runners took to the streets in Petersburg on May 19.

Unlike most communities doing the 5K Torch Run, the runners in Petersburg completed a 4.6-mile course.

The May Fest, a Norwegian holiday, is celebrated every year in Petersburg. One of the events in the week long festival is the Lop the Loop run put on by the Petersburg Parks and Recreation. What a better way to raise a little money for Special Olympics than to piggy-back the torch run on an established event.

"The Loop" is a 4.6-mile circuit around town. Though runners with the Torch Run were instructed that they only needed to pound the pavement for 5K, a bit of competition inspired all 15 participants to complete the entire loop.

Participants included Petersburg Police and Dispatch, a Forest Service LEO, Fish and Game employees, the Petersburg city manager, retired Trooper Bruce Jones, as well as friends and family.

Well wishers in the community also anonymously donated pledges. The group put together almost \$1,300 in pledges. Not too bad for a first time event.

"The Loop" was a success for the Petersburg Parks and Recreation too. Over 100 people turned out to run, walk or stroll the 4.6 miles. If the "Lop the Loop" is run on the same day next year we will try and get the word out to all the runners to pledge and get a shirt.

I think we're going need more T-Shirts! ■



And they're off.



Wyatt, son of Trp. Cody Litster, helps out with setting up the finish line.



Participants line up at the starting line.



Traci Walther, wife of Forest Service LEO Tim Walther, carries the



Petersburg Police Officer Steve Scherrer and Forest Service LEO Tim Walther push each other to run more than the 5K.



Wildlife Trp. Cody Litster finishes up the 4.6 mile loop.

(A Det., continued on page 19)

A Det., continued from page 18



Radio Dispatcher II, Richard Nowland, shows his appreciation for Barlow and Eldridge with his rendition of the song "Memories," at a goodbye party honoring the two transferring troopers.

"Hey Jesse, can you pass the soap?" – AWT Sgt. Bernard Chastain, right, and Patrol Trooper Jesse Osborn, left, get cleaned up after a dive. Lt. Rodney Dial, the third member of the dive team, was smart enough to wash up at home.



Captain Kurt Ludwig presents Sgt. Bryan Barlow with a plaque of appreciation at his goodbye party. Also pictured Barlow's wife, Ophelia, and daughter, Ava.



Captain Kurt Ludwig presents Trooper Mark Eldridge with a plaque of appreciation at his goodbye party. Also pictured is Eldridge's wife Maureen Eldridge.



B Detachment News

MEMORIAL DAY 2007

BY ROMINA MANEVAL

In our DPS Quarterly we take the opportunity to share special event happenings at our detachment.

B Detachment would like to recognize **Trp. Brandon Viator** and his wife, U.S. Army Captain Melissa Viator, for their devotion to Public Service this Memorial Day.

Brandon and his wife Melissa met in the Army in 1998 and have been together ever since. Brandon has moved on from the Army and now serves as an Alaska State Trooper. However, Melissa has utilized her degree from the University of Syracuse to serve as Army Captain of Unit 4-25 Airborne for Headquarter Operations Battalion based out of Fort Richardson.

While Brandon serves and protects through the Department of Public Safety,

his wife Melissa not only serves in the U.S. Army, but is 1 of 250 women in combat currently deployed to Iraq. Melissa is currently based just south of Baghdad as key personnel for Tactical Operations. She packs a standard issue weapon and jumps out of airplanes as the captain of her unit.

Brandon states he and Melissa talk about once a week (with a 12-hour difference between Alaska and Iraq). They talk about his calls and her missions, both concerned about each others safety and welfare as well as advising each other to stay out of the line of fire.

Once in a while Melissa experiences a communication shutdown where personnel are prohibited from calling outside of Baghdad.

When asked about religion in Baghdad,

Brandon says Melissa has a St. Christopher medallion and attends church every Sunday – he then grins and says the chaplain is 100 percent Army and wears fatigues, spits and yells with the best of them.

Brandon recently enjoyed having Melissa's unit back in Alaska for a couple of weeks. They hung out and cherished each minute together before she deployed again. Melissa's unit is scheduled back in Alaska in December where maybe she'll be home to stay this time.

Whatever each of our ideas and opinions may be about the current war in Iraq or wars past, let our prayers and support always be for the soldier who is or has served our country as well as those who serve and protect stateside. God Bless them all. ■

(B Det., continued on page 20)

B Det., continued from page 19

COLLECTING EVIDENCE IN THE VALLEY

BY ROMINA MANEVAL



Michelle Czaikowski, a Palmer Crime Scene Technician, works on fingerprinting for a theft/forgery case.

B Detachment acquired a new Crime Scene Technician **Michelle Czaikowski**. Michelle has been with us for a few months now and has had a chance to work a few cases with B Detachment Troopers.

What is a Crime Scene Technician?

A Crime Scene Technician responds to secured crime scenes to collect key evidence, latent prints and collect photos of the scene.

Sgt. Craig Allen of ABI at Palmer AST Post said Michelle lends assistance through her training in the collection of latent prints, other physical evidence as well as in photography. He definitely has seen some good fingerprints.

Allen said if Michelle was not available to his ABI unit, they would go back to doing business the way they used to, by calling out Crime Scene Techs only for the most serious

investigations and thus having to wait longer for a response.

Now that Michelle is assigned to B Detachment, he would like all troopers and investigators to utilize her services on a regular basis.

Sgt. Robert French of Palmer patrol and **Sgt. Walter Blajeski** of Talkeetna Post both said Michelle is a benefit in freeing up the investigating trooper allowing the trooper to move on with the investigation where the trooper would allocate investigation time toward evidence collection.

Michelle is mildly modest when it comes to her role as Crime Scene Technician. She states that she doesn't do any evidence collection that the trooper can't do alone. But as the sergeants above would agree, the trooper would spend more time at scenes and the evidence collection quality would suffer. ■

CST CORNER

BY MICHELLE CZAIKOWSKI, CRIME SCENE TECHNICIAN



36 students, primarily troopers, learned the proper methods of photographing and casting footwear and tire track impressions in the snow.

On March 6-7, B Detachment hosted two training sessions at the new Mat-Su West Facility. The four-hour class, entitled "Documenting and Collecting Snow Impression Evidence," was sponsored by the Alaska Police Standards Council.

Forensic Scientist Jim Wolfe instructed 36 students, primarily troopers, on the proper



The technique involved pouring a molten sulfur compound onto a snow impression and developing an almost perfect replica of the impression.

methods of photographing and casting footwear and tire track impressions in the snow.

In addition to reviewing the traditional dental stone casting techniques, students learned a new technique developed by Wolfe – which allows for rapid and reliable casting in snow.



The entire process of developing the replica can be completed in about 12 minutes.

The technique involved pouring a molten sulfur compound onto a snow impression and developing an almost perfect replica of the impression.

From start to finish, the process can be completed in about 12 minutes. Seeing was believing. ■

(B Det., continued on page 21)

B Det., continued from page 20

GLENNALLEN POST

BY JANE FLAGSTAD

Summer was slow to come in this neck of the woods, but the rivers and lakes opened up and there have been plenty of happenings in the Glennallen enforcement area.

Every April brings the Arctic Man Event. This year AST's involvement was organized by **Lt. Lantz Dahlke** of D Detachment. Troopers from all over the state were brought together at the actual event. Happily, there were no fatalities at this year's Arctic Man – mostly MCA's, DUI's and only a couple of minor injuries were reported.

The coordination of this event between D Detachment, Tok Dispatchers, Glennallen Clerical Staff, District Court in Glennallen and Palmer SAO continues to be a challenge, but gets better every year according to **Sgt. Duane Stone**. It also provides a great opportunity for DPS workers around the state to get to work together.

Gov. Sarah Palin and family paid a visit to the Copper River Basin on April 19-20. Although she brought her own protective detail, **Lt. Gary Wheeler** and Glennallen Troopers attended her public appearances at the Glennallen High School and Kluti-Kaah Hall.

In May, Glennallen Troopers took part in "Disaster Awareness Days" at three area schools: Kenny Lake School, Glennallen High School and Copper Center Elementary. Local Volunteer Fire Departments, Copper



School children anxiously await the start of summer. In May, Glennallen Troopers took part in "Disaster Awareness Days" at three area schools – Kenny Lake School, Glennallen High School and Copper Center Elementary.

River EMS (Ambulance) and AST representatives brought their emergency vehicles.

Sgt. Stone also spoke at a Glennallen High School assembly promoting volunteerism in the community. Nineteen members of the senior class have signed up for CERT, VFD's and Copper River

EMS.

Glennallen Post greeted our new **AWT Public Safety Technician Chuck Thomas** this past May.

We also say goodbye to **Trp. Ronny Simmons**. He and his wife Anna will be moving to Palmer where he will continue to work for AST out of Mat-Su West. ■

TALKEETNA POST

BY MARIE RICHTER

The Talkeetna post said good-bye to **Trp. David Bower** on July 1. All of us here at the Talkeetna post are going to miss him, but are left wondering: "Dave, can we keep the Latte' machine?"

On another note ... "It's SUMMERTIME, get out those motorcycles!"

B Detachment is adding more motorcycle patrols. With this, **Trp. John Ostoj** and **Trp. David Bower** attended motorcycle training for two weeks in Allentown, Pen. Talkeetna will have a great new addition for the summer patrol season.

There is going to be a new commercial airing on cable that will have our own **Trp. Andrew Adams**. It was filmed right here in Talkeetna. The Susitna Valley High School did a commercial on Under Age Drinking and Driving that will air on cable sometime late summer/fall. It will be on ESPN, Discovery, MTV and several other networks. Now, the Talkeetna Post has two TV stars, **Trp. Jake Covey** in the "Click It or Ticket" advertisement and Adams with this new commercial.

Great Job Guys! ■

PALMER POST

Sgt. "Kat" Peterson is moving on to work out of Headquarters and was promoted to lieutenant. Let's just say we hope they have a Pepsi machine at Headquarters and keep it well stocked. We will miss her greatly.

Trp. Howard Peterson is moving to Girdwood Post and **Trp. Chris Long** is transferring to ABI/Mat-Su. We wish them the best of luck.

Congratulations to **Trp. Ronald Hayes**, **Trp. Aaron Meyer**, **Trp. Benjamin Mank** and their families after they all had spring babies.

On May 20 and at approximately 7:50 p.m., **Inv. Shannon Fore** and **Trp. Luis Nieves** were on patrol when they encountered an adult male unconscious while at the wheel of a vehicle. Using the driver's cell phone, they contacted the man's wife at that number and learned that he was going to kill himself. Their investigation showed that the man had consumed a large amount of prescription medications and alcohol.

Fore and Nieves called for medical assistances, saving the man's life. ■

C Detachment News

C DETACHMENT SEES BIG CHANGES, NEW FACES

The Kotzebue Post lost **Trp. Eric Lorry** from the blue side to the newly formed Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers. Lorry, now a second-generation brown shirt, continues to build hours in the pilot program in the effort to bring wildlife enforcement back to the area full time.

Kotzebue is also turning out the old and bringing in the new.

Trp. Vance Peronto is transferring to Major Offenders Unit in Anchorage. Remember if you do see him, do not talk to him, as he could be deep, deep undercover. Donnie Brasco, or Frank Serpico, anyone?

Trp. Harold "Shaw" Miller is transferring to Healy in D Detachment. Tighten that hat strap, the wind does blow there.

Now for the new, or not really new, but **Trp. Terry Shepherd** is letting go of the reins of that fast paced race horse known as the Anchorage Service Unit for the calming pace of the Kotzebue Post. Shepherd does bring a new outlook to the post which has been previously populated by less "senior" troopers than him.

Sgt. Karl Main is looking forward to hearing stories about the good old days, like being old enough to remember the assassination of President Kennedy, and not just from history books. In addition, hearing what it meant to be a trooper without e-mail, Blackberry's, the Internet, cell phones and other modern luxuries.

The Aniak Post, which oversees the Emmonak and St. Mary's posts, is also in a period of change.

Trp. Nathan Sheets promoted to sergeant and took over as the post supervisor in Aniak, leaving Palmer AWT after a



Bethel Tpr. Andrew Ballesteros got hitched at the Bethel Court house on April 6, 2007. Ballesteros and his wife, Sarah, pictured in the middle, are surrounded by fellow Bethel troopers Lt. Tony April, Sgt. Perry Barr, Trp. Mike Duffield, Sgt. Matthew Dobson, Trp. Teague Widmier, Trp. William Kemper, Trp. Ron Whittom, Trp. Mike Roberts and their family members.

brief tour. Apparently, someone has been saying ill things about him because almost immediately, **Trp. Neal Fulks** of Emmonak and **Trp. Garrett Willis** of St. Mary's bid out.

Fulks will be sharing his stories of his time spent establishing the Emmonak post with the good folks at the Seward Post in E Detachment.

Willis will trade out the Yukon River for the Kenai River and move into Cooper Landing, also in E Detachment. No one should feel sorry for him. We are all waiting for the bids to be posted to see who their replacements will be.

Until then, **Trp. Kirsten Hanson** and **Trp. Sean Adkins** will be the first line of defense for the Lower Yukon.

Trp. Alex Arduser in Aniak found the time to get married and we look forward to a "feminine" touch to his decidedly non-

feminine apartment. Old rusty traps and second-hand furniture are the predominant theme in his décor.

Aniak's long promised housing has been put out to bid. Welcome news for everyone at the Aniak Post.

Aniak is also looking forward to the pending transfer of **AWT Tim Hall** from Palmer, who will show up in the area Aug. 1, just in time for the hunting season to explode on him.

Lt. Tony April is settling into his new office at the detachment headquarters in Anchorage after transferring out of Bethel. He recently had surgery and is recovering well. He wants to thank everyone for their support and prayers. His prognosis and recovery outlook are excellent.

NEWS FROM NOME

In carrying over the theme of change, Nome also welcomed troopers **George Kammer** to Unalakleet and **Jonnathon Stroebale** to the Nome.

With their arrival, the Nome Post is fully staffed for the first time in quite awhile.

Nome bid farewell to **Sgt. Rodney Johnson** who moved to the Fairbanks Post and **Trp. Christopher Jaime** who moved south to Soldotna to chase poachers in AWT.

We wish them and their families well



Nathan Sheets gets his new sergeant badge pinned on by his wife, Roxanne.



Trp. Andrew Merrill watches as his wife, Marcy, pins his new sergeant badge on his uniform.

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in the new assignments.

Safety Bear came out of hibernation early to visit the local schools with the assistance of Nome troopers **Anne Sears** and **Aileen Witrosky**.

Safety Bear attended schools in Nome, Wales and Shishmaref.

Safety Bear was also seen in the Fourth of July Parade.

Sgt. Andrew Merrill has made several public appearances since his arrival and his favorite was with the Kawarek Head Start in Nome.

Merrill used the D.A.R.E. study prints to discuss bike and road safety for the upcoming summer months. The kids jumped at the opportunity to explore the inside of a "Trooper Car" and loved the siren.

The ice is out and the roads are clear so everyone is preparing for an exciting summer. If your travels bring you to Western Alaska, drop in and say hi.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH IN DILLINGHAM

Trp. Jason Fieser and his wife, Staci, announced the arrival of Kodiak Blue, a baby boy, on April 15 at 6:06 a.m. He weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 21 inches.

Trp. David Bump was given



Trp. Jonnathon Stroebale stopped to help a little girl who was playing in one of the many puddles in Shishmaref. Stroebale is a recent addition to the Nome post.

commendation for valor for saving the lives of four children and one adult during a house fire on March 9, 2007. He and two other Dillingham Police Department officers were recognized by the City of Dillingham for the efforts with the house fire.

Trp. Cornelius "Moose" Sims and his wife, Jessica, left the Dillingham Post at the end of March for Sitka. Sims, who was promoted to corporal, is now teaching at the academy.

With Jessica's departure, Dillingham welcomed the arrival of **Rebecca Roenfanz** who took over Jessica's duties as clerk at the post and is quite happy to announce the world is still turning and the troopers get their phone messages sooner or later.

Before leaving the post Sims and Jessica announced they were expecting a baby. Just last week they called to inform us they are having a baby girl. Congratulations to the proud parents to be. ■

D Detachment News

BY SUE ROGERS

On March 19, Deputy Commissioner John Glass was in Fairbanks to present **Gary Folger** with his new badge as Colonel of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

To celebrate his last work day in Fairbanks on March 23, we had a goodbye potluck for Folger. We had a large turn out with lots of good food. He will be greatly missed in Fairbanks but we're all very happy for him.

Personnel changes include new administrative clerk **Angela Hickman**, who started on March 27. We also have a new dispatcher as of May 7, **Chris Hampton**. **Jessica Lenahan** transferred to the courthouse and after being gone three months found that she missed dispatching. She is back as of May 31. **Lauren Parker** joined Judicial Services as an administrative clerk on March 19 replacing **Joyce Stephens**

and **Raymond Norris** began his CSO position in mid-March.

A lot of trooper moves took place on April 1.

Trooper Malik Jones is now stationed in Nenana, and **Trooper Jonnathon Stroebale** is in Nome.

We welcomed back both **Sgt. Rodney Johnson** from Nome to Fairbanks Patrol, and **Investigator Mark Eldridge** from Ketchikan to Fairbanks ABI. Johnson had spent time as a trooper at the Cantwell post and Eldridge had spent a few years on patrol in Fairbanks.

Sgt. Robert Miller, who most recently worked in Judicial Services in the Fairbanks courthouse, retired in May. Family, friends and co-workers gathered for a potluck held in the conference room on May 5. ■

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Col. Gary Folger receives his colonel eagle rankings from Deputy Commissioner John Glass on March 19.

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PHOTOGRAPHS FROM FAIRBANKS



Pictured above are local law enforcement members attending the Police Memorial Day held at the Fairbanks Police Department on Tuesday, May 15, 2007. The rifle team, pictured below right, included AST Sgt. Brian Wassmann, third from left.



On May 3, 2007 Governor Sarah Palin joined 2007 Yukon Quest and Iditarod winner Lance Mackey and Trp. Ricky Merritt at a fifth-grade D.A.R.E. graduation at Arctic Light Elementary School on Fort Wainwright.



Midnight Sun Run participants shoot out of the starting line in front of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Student Recreational Center at 10 p.m. on June 23. Thousands of runners participate – some dressed in lavish costumes – in the popular annual 10k run through Fairbanks.



Two rafters enjoy a pleasant evening while floating down the Chena River in downtown Fairbanks on June 23.

E Detachment News

By SHAE HOLLANDSWORTH



And the winner is....ANCHOR! Trooper Greg Pealatero held a K-9 naming contest for the newest member of Anchor Point Patrol. Students from 18 different fourth through sixth grade classes submitted ideas, and the finalists were given K-9 shirts and patches.



Erika and Trp. Michael Guymon show off their brand new bundle of joy, Noah Briggs Guymon.

Trp. John Cyr, a fixture here at Soldotna Post, is pulling up stakes and transferring to Palmer AWT.

Sgt. Barry Wilson was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to Anchorage Headquarters where he's a part of the Division Operations Team.

Trp. Terrence Shanigan recently transferred from Soldotna patrol to Soldotna ABI. He has introduced haute cuisine to the other investigators by way of east-coast style donuts and premium coffee.

Erika and **Trp. Michael Guymon** stopped by post on their way home from



Tonya and Dane Gilmore show off his shiny new Lieutenant's badge.

the hospital to show off their new bundle of joy, Noah Briggs Guymon. Noah was born April 19, 2007, and weighed 7 pounds, lbs. 9.5 ounces. Change must be in the cards for Guymon, because he is transferring from Soldotna patrol to Soldotna ABI. Even if the new baby doesn't keep him awake at night, his new job as investigator might.



Sgt. Rob Hunter and his wife Dana celebrate Rob's promotion to Sergeant. Hunter was promoted from ABI investigator to Soldotna Patrol Sergeant.

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Editor's note: The following is a letter Tok Trooper Tage Toll received from a woman he ticketed for speeding recently. The letter has been edited slightly for grammatical errors.

For eight years I have had a clean driving record. I have been pulled over three times in the last four years for stupid stuff. I would always cry and cops would let me go. Some rather disgruntled males told me it was because cops always let the cute girls go. That had to be it. It had nothing to do with the fact that I am generally a responsible driver, I was simply "too cute" to get tickets.

Until June 2. 75 in a 55 zone? What was wrong with me? Imagine how shocked I was after the fact. For years my young, innocent (looks) had kept me out of trouble.

I stared at myself in the mirror. Was I

THANKS FOR THE TICKET



Trp. Tage Toll is a patrol trooper in Tok.

beginning to look old? Was it obvious that I was 3/16 Canadian? Had I indeed been the victim of discrimination against Canadians, or was it really possible that when it came to following the law I was absolutely no different from everyone else, at least in Tok?

I have several friends and family members that would like to shake your hand for giving me a ticket.

While I was heartbroken (that)

my driving record is smudged, I keep telling myself that it's "all part of the adventure."

I try to tell myself it was worth it for setting the new family record for driving the Alcan (in) 51 hours. Any trucker would be proud.

I am considering framing my first ticket and hanging it in my classroom in North Carolina as a reminder to my students the consequences of not following rules.

Enjoy the summer. I myself am quite sad that I am missing the best season in Alaska. I tell myself that my grand new adventure will be just as exciting as frolicking in mountains, bobbing in lakes and wading in creeks.

When I come to my senses and move back to Alaska I will make sure I drive the speed limit, at least in Tok.

I have been reformed.

-Kirstin ■

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BAD BOYS OF THE KENAI



The Southern SERT team spent the first two weeks of May training in Fairbanks. (Back row) Trp. Michael Zweifel, CES Medic Shawn Killian, Trp. Darrel Christensen, Trp. Michael Henry, Sgt. Jim Truesdell. (Front row) Trp. Larry Erickson, Trp. John Cyr, Kenai Police Officer Trevor Miller, USFWS Officer Chris Johnson and Lt. Dane Gilmore.



Dispatchers Julie Carroll and Randi Sass receive commendations for their excellent work dispatching during a long, involved, and risky pursuit on the Seward Highway.



ABI Sgt. Eugene Fowler takes his new job seriously — he's not going to miss one little detail with glasses like those! Now all he needs is a wand and an owl...



On St. Patrick's Day, several troopers volunteered to join forces with the St. Baldrick's Foundation to raise money for childhood cancer. Lt. Barry Wilson, Trp. Larry Erickson, Trp. Matthew Wertanen, Trp. Joseph Minnick, Inv. Terrence Shanigan, Lt. Glenn Godfrey and Maj. Steve Bear all had their heads shaved for the event. Dispatcher Stacy Day and Administrative Clerk Marcy Brown volunteered as barbers, and fortunately, no one suffered any major head trauma.



Trp. John Cyr's daughter, Eileen, crafted her vehicle of choice for her first grade transportation unit.



Everyone at Soldotna post is thrilled to have Mark Ridling back with us. In addition to enjoying birthday cake on occasion, he is currently serving as a background investigator for DPS.



Dispatcher Stacy Day trains a youngster at Nikolaevsk school on using 911.

DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION

By MAHLON GREENE



Director Dave Tyler

Director Dave Tyler has taken over the reins of the Division of Fire Prevention and has been busy traveling around the state meeting with employees as well as local fire departments. The Division of Fire Prevention is fortunate to have Director Tyler at the helm with his many years of experience in the emergency services community.

Director Tyler has also traveled out of state to attend the PARADE conference where State and Municipal Fire Marshals discuss topics relating to life safety issues nationwide.

He also attended the ICC Codes Final Action Hearing in Rochester, New York. Deputy Fire Marshal II Carol Olson and Plans Examiner I John Cawthon also attended the hearings. These hearings decide what changes will be made to the many building codes used worldwide that can affect life safety and accessibility in residential, commercial and industrial structures.

One of the most controversial decisions was the residential fire sprinkler code. Unfortunately the change to require fire suppression sprinklers in all new construction homes did not receive the two-thirds majority vote needed to put it in the new codes.

This code could have a dramatic impact on fire fatalities nationwide. The building community has been fighting the change because of the extra cost involved in adding the sprinkler system to the home.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION BUREAU

The Training and Education Bureau welcomes Kirsten Raye to the Bureau. Kirsten was hired as the Associate Coordinator for the Pacific Rim Institute of Safety and Management (PRISM) in Kenai.

The Training and Education Bureau recently purchased 506 copies of the new fire safety book, "Children Are No Match For Fire."

A copy of the book was sent to every

public and school library in the state. The books were purchased through a grant from the National Association of State Fire Marshals. Several letters and emails of thanks have been received from communities around the state.

The Training and Education Bureau sponsored a "Best Practices" Public Education Mini-Summit in Wasilla on May 18-19.

The keynote speaker was Battalion Chief Kwame Cooper of the Los Angeles City Fire Department. Chief Cooper gave an excellent program on community based fire safety education. New programs and equipment were also reviewed in an effort to enhance our public education efforts throughout the state.

PLAN REVIEW BUREAU

The Division of Fire Prevention began the process of the adoption of the 2006 International Building, Fire, Mechanical and Fuel Gas Codes.

Although we were hoping for a smooth transition from the 2003 codes to the 2006 codes, the public comment period revealed much objection regarding the Fuel Gas code.

It appears there are conflicts between the Uniform Plumbing code, which has been adopted by the State Department of Labor and the Fuel Gas Code. The conflict was resolved and only partial sections of the Fuel Gas code were adopted that are not in conflict with the Uniform Plumbing Code.



The Training and Education Bureau recently sent roughly 506 copies of the new fire safety book "Children Are No Match For Fire" to every public and school library in the state.

Notable changes in the 2006 amendments to the International Codes include:

- The adoption of Chapter 11, the American with Disabilities chapter. We will review and inspect for means of egress and accessible route, including related components.

- Additionally, all R-1's (hotels, motels) will now be required to be sprinklered for new construction. The R-2's (apartments) will be sprinklered when they have more than two stories, or more than 16 dwelling or sleeping units. Keeping consistent with previous years, all R-4's shall be sprinklered.

- A new Section 422 has been added regarding the requirement for carbon monoxide detection in groups I-1, I-2, and all R occupancies.

- Fire system permits are now permitted for three years instead of two years. The adoption of the 2006 code amendments into regulation is anticipated by June 15th, 2007. When they are finalized, they will be made available on our website at www.akburny.com.

Areas in the state seeing a surge in development and within the State Fire Marshals Office jurisdiction are Eagle River and oil and gas development on the North Slope.

Eagle River will be expanding its existing Wal-Mart store by 73,000 square feet and the Carrs store is doing an extensive complete remodel.

North Slope Oil and Gas is developing the Oooguruk Field Development, a drill site and production facilities located on a man made island located in Harrison Bay.

The Bureau welcomes Administrative Clerk III Susan Tullo to the Fairbanks office. Susan started with the Bureau in April and had previously worked for the Department of Labor resource room.

LIFE SAFETY INSPECTION BUREAU

The Bureau welcomes Deputy Fire Marshal I Kevin Hunter to the Anchorage Headquarters Office. Kevin came to us from the U.S. Air Force in April. Kevin achieved staff sergeant in the Air Force, and served in multiple areas of the Fire Protection

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Prevention, continued from page 27

program. Areas ranging from fire operations, prevention, dispatch, EMS and HAZMAT. Kevin served in Washington D.C., Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan and Alaska. Kevin is a home-grown boy from Eagle River.

Congratulations are in order for Deputy Fire Marshal I Nathan Rocheleau. Nathan graduated from the Alaska Law Enforcement Training Program at the Public Safety Academy in Sitka on June 7.

It will be great to have Nathan back in the office. Deputy Hunter is scheduled to attend the academy in early August. This training teaches the basic law enforcement knowledge and tactics, which will assist the deputies in their function as code enforcement officials. It prepares them for identifying possible trends in fire starting, aiding communities with identifying fire starters and with “cradle to grave” prosecution responsibilities of fire starters.

Fires in Alaska have already impacted our communities by taking eight of our fellow Alaskans from us. There have been a vast number of properties lost so far this year as well. Facilities like the Seldovia Lodge



Deputy Fire Marshal Kevin Hunter

and a housing unit on Ft. Richardson. Both facilities were investigated by the Life Safety Inspection Bureau. The Ft. Richardson fire was a joint tasking between the federal, state and municipal fire entities.

Fire and life safety is an incredibly huge responsibility and undertaking, one that the Bureau and the division are dedicated to seeing fulfilled. With the aid of deferred jurisdiction fire departments and outlying state trooper posts, the deputies attempt to make Alaska safer.

Deputy Fire Marshal I John Bond has moved to the Palmer office. This will allow John to respond more efficiently to the needs of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough area. ■



Administrative Clerk Susan Tullo



Deputy Fire Marshal Nathan Rocheleau

DPS FIRE TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR VISITS SOUTH AFRICA

BY JODIE HETTRICK, FIRE TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR

The Alaska Division of Fire Prevention is a member of the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, a peer-driven organization responsible for accrediting fire service certification entities.

A key component of the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, or IFSAC, is the Accreditation of Certification programs audit. Members of IFSAC conduct site visits in order to accredit certification programs to review testing policies and procedures and observes they are used.

I was selected to participate in the Certification Audit site visit to South African Emergency Services Institute.

The South African Emergency Services Institute (SAESI) is the certification agency responsible for fire and emergency service certification for South Africa and are also expanding into bordering countries such as Namibia.

When a firefighter gains certification under an organization accredited by IFSAC, it ensures an employer that the firefighter

meets the minimum qualifying international standards accepted in the industry. A person who receives certification as a Firefighter I with an IFSAC seal endorsement from the

State of Alaska meets the same standard as a person receiving the certification from 33

(South Africa, continued on page 20



The team conducted a site visit to South African Coal and Oil's industrial fire training site that specializes in Hazardous Materials training and certification near the city of Secunda in the Mpumlanga Province.

South Africa, continued from page 28

U.S. states, the U.S. Department of Defense, nine Canadian Provinces, South Africa and Oman.

I started the trip to Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa on the evening of May 18, but due to flight schedules and the time difference, I did not get to Johannesburg until the morning of May 21.

I traveled with two other IFSAC members; Wayne Bailey, certification specialist for North Carolina Fire and Rescue Commission and Brenda Popko, manager of the Manitoba Emergency Services College.

We were picked up by SAESI representatives on May 21 and taken to the city of Secunda in the Mpumlanga Province. We conducted a site visit at South African Coal and Oil (SASOL), the industrial fire training site that specializes in Hazardous Materials training and certification.

We spent an entire day reviewing their testing policies and procedures, written test banks and observing a practical exam.

The next morning the IFSAC team attended a breakfast at Rhino Lodge hosted by SAESI and SASOL.

While at Rhino Lodge, we were given a short tour of the lodge and the surrounding area. Rhino Lodge is a game farm catering to tourists not able to travel to any of the larger parks in the country.

We traveled to Johannesburg the afternoon of May 23 and started our site visits to several locations of the Johannesburg Fire Department. Our first stop was Boxburg. The Boxburg Training Center specializes in Public Fire and Life Safety Education and Public Information Officer training and certification. We reviewed their policies and procedures and written test banks just as we had at the SASOL site.

On May 24, we had a short meeting with the Mayor of Johannesburg, Amos Masando, and Johannesburg Fire Chief Dr. Audrey Gule.

It just happened to be "Bring your girl child to work day" so we were introduced to the girls in attendance by Chief Gule. She was very pleased that two of the site visit members happened to be women.

The City of Johannesburg just initiated a large effort to have their workforce more accurately reflect the population of the community. Having women members on



The team spotted a hippopotamus while on a short tour of the Rhino Lodge.



The team has breakfast at Rhino Lodge hosted by SAESI and SASOL.



Paramedics in Johannesburg carry all of their equipment in these small cars and respond directly to the call before the ambulance.



Jodie Hettrick, DPS Fire Training Administrator, stands in front of an fire engine at the Johannesburg Fire Department. Much of the equipment is the same type used in the United States.



A housing unit at the Fairview fire station in the Inner City district of Johannesburg. As a safety measure most of the fire stations are surrounded by security fences and high walls.

(South Africa, continued on page 30

South Africa, continued from page 29

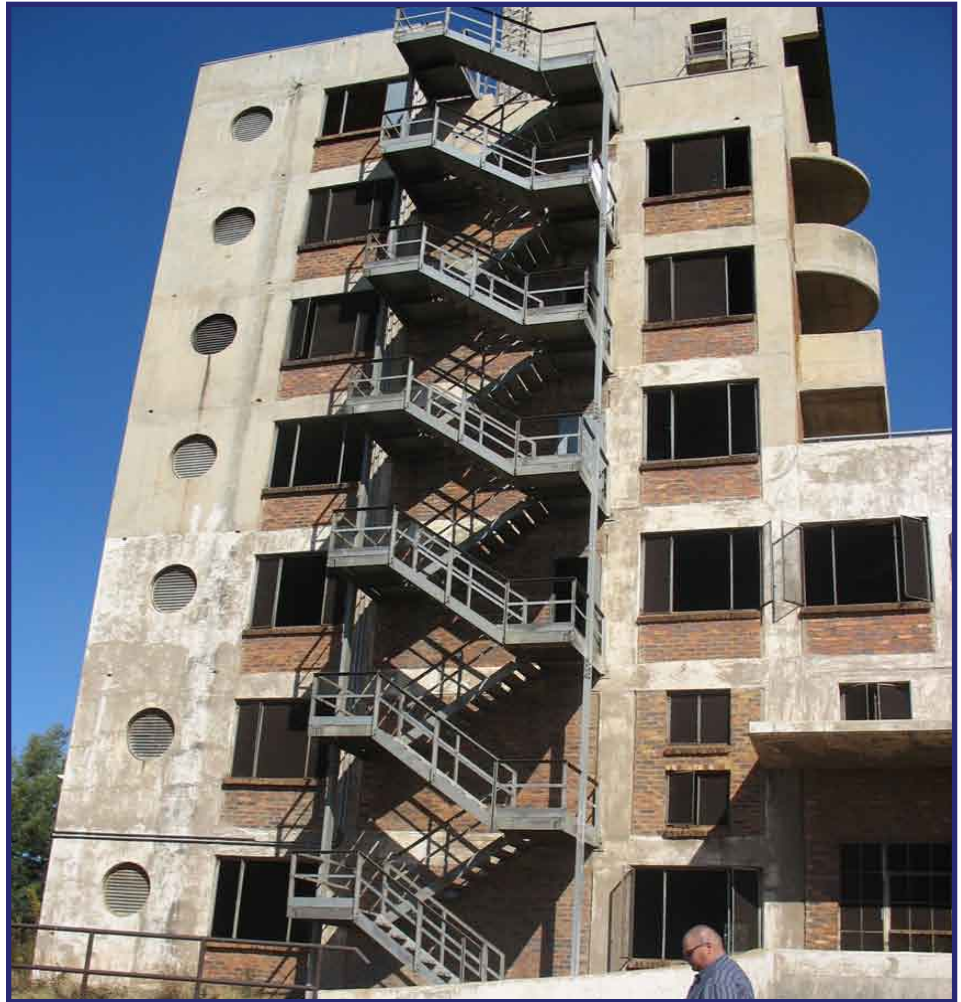
an international body representing the fire service make a good impression on the Fire Chief and the girls attending the meeting.

The rest of the day we visited several Johannesburg fire stations to evaluate certification programs such as Fire Officer, Firefighter I and Firefighter II. Johannesburg Fire Department has approximately 1200 personnel on the fire department. All department personnel are trained by the Johannesburg Fire Department Training Office. They have three main training centers; Boxburg, Brixton and Florida Park.

All fire stations in Johannesburg include housing for firefighters and their families. Firefighters live within the fire station compound in apartments or condos. One example is the housing unit at the Fairview fire station in the Inner City district of Johannesburg. As a safety measure most of the fire stations are surrounded by security fences and high walls.

Fire apparatus is mostly the same as we have in the United States. One of the engines was produced by Emergency One, a manufacturer located in Florida.

The most distinct difference I found between emergency services in the US and Johannesburg, is how Paramedics respond to emergency medical calls. Paramedics carry all of their equipment in a small car and respond directly to the call before the ambulance. The paramedic initiates care to stabilize the patient before the ambulance arrives. The patient is then loaded into the ambulance and, if stable, the paramedic returns to the station. This improves the Advanced Life Support



One of the training towers for the Johannesburg Fire Department.

coverage for the city.

The team met with representatives from SAESI, South African Emergency Services Institute on the final day of the site visit to present our findings and offer suggestions

and recommendations for changes to improve their programs.

Amazingly, it only took 40 hours to return home, much better than the 68 hours it took to get there. ■

DIVISION OF STATEWIDE SERVICES

DYM HEADS SCIENTIFIC CRIME DETECTION LABORATORY



Laboratory Supervisor Orin Dym

Orin Dym accepted the position as Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory supervisor.

Dym has a bachelor's of science from the University of Arizona and began his career in forensic science with the Arizona Department of Public Safety in July 1993.

He has a strong background in synthetic organic chemistry and was assigned as a controlled substance and clandestine laboratory analyst in

the Central Regional Laboratory in Phoenix.

In October 2001, he was promoted to Supervising Criminalist.

Two years later, Dym made the move to a cooler climate as Regional Manager of the Northern Regional Crime Laboratory in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Continuing his northern migration, he joined the Alaska DPS SCDL June 25. ■

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HAMMER ENTRENCHED IN FORENSIC MASTERS PROGRAM IN SCOTLAND

Latent Print Section Supervisor Lesley Hammer is three-quarters of the way through a program she has been attending in Glasgow, Scotland since August 2006.

The Master of Science Program at Strathclyde University in Glasgow is one of the oldest and most prestigious forensic graduate programs in the world.

Upon arriving there late last summer she was met with academic and cultural challenges. The program consisting of 45 students is comprised of about half from the United Kingdom and half from various other countries.

The curriculum consists of studies



Latent Print Supervisor Lesley Hammer in general criminalistics, crime scene processing, a chemistry or biology option and a thesis/placement project.

Lesley began the thesis project phase

with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Ottawa Research Laboratory in Canada. There, she will take on a project involving the validation of footprint and shoeprint evidence.

In this interim period between the studies in Scotland and her upcoming thesis, Lesley presented an overview about her experiences to the staff of the SCDL.

Overall, the chance to compare and contrast the interfaces between law enforcement agencies, judicial systems and forensic laboratories has provided an enormous wealth of information that will ultimately serve her continuing career with the State of Alaska. ■

IN OTHER NEWS

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

BY BETH IPSEN, PIO

Nineteen communities across the state participated in the Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run on May 21.

Preliminary figures shows the fundraiser for Special Olympics raised about \$60,000, according to state Torch Run coordinator Terry Vrabec, director of the Alaska Police Standards Council in Juneau.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run has events that go on all year throughout the world. They do polar plunges, truck pulls and just about anything you can think of to raise money. Years ago, it was called the Special Olympics Mileage Event.

In Alaska, the main event is the May Torch Run. However, Vrabec said this year the Alaska organization is looking at other fundraisers, like a gold outing and a polar plunge later in the year.

Across the world law enforcement agencies raise millions of dollars each year for the Special Olympics. The run is in its 27th year.

According to the Special Olympics website, the Torch Run is the largest grassroots fundraiser for the Special Olympics.

Vrabec will also participate in the Final Leg, which like its name, is the final leg of the Torch Run. This is the event that

officers and athletes will run the lighted torch to the opening ceremonies of the World Games for Special Olympics in China in September.

Vrabec is not the only one attending this ceremony from the Alaska Department of Public Safety. Commissioner Walt Monegan will be going as a VIP and is planning on making appearance with the international

(Torch, continued on page 32)



Trp. Chris Umbs holds the torch with a Special Olympic runner during the Law Enforcement Torch Run in Juneau on May 21.

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running team at the opening ceremonies. Several state legislators are scheduled to attend, Vrabec said.

“For the China adventure our team will go to China about a week before the opening ceremonies and make appearances in many communities,” Vrabec said. “We run the torch into communities, meet with their athletes and community members and then run out.”

Vrabec also participated in the Final Leg leading up to the World Games in Japan in 2005. Recently retired Lt. Brandon Anderson was the DPS runner before Vrabec and in 2003 ran in the Final Leg event leading to the World Games in Europe. ■



Torch Run coordinator Terry Vrabec and director of the Alaska Police Standards Council in Juneau stands with a torch. Vrabec participated in the Juneau Torch Run May 21. Runners in the 5K included Special Olympians who afterwards competed in their summer games.

CSI: ALASKA ON WHEELS 2007 CLEAN AIR CHALLENGE

BY SGT. CURT HARRIS, ABI

Although the sky was overcast and threatening rain, a team of intrepid bicycle riders from the Department of Public Safety departed the Houston High School parking lot with a stiff wind on their backs on their way to the Talkeetna Lodge.

The team was riding on behalf of the Alaska chapter of the American Lung Association’s annual charity ride, which took place the weekend of May 12-13.

For the fourth year in a row, the DPS team named CSI: Alaska On Wheels represented the troopers on the 120-mile trek to Talkeetna and back.

The team this year was comprised of six riders from the Alaska Bureau of Investigation, the State Crime Lab and the Records and Identification Bureau.

Team’s members were team leader **Sgt. Curt Harris**, and members **Inv. Eric Burroughs**, **Inv. Kim Waychoff**, **Jessica Cohan**, **Tom Wortman** and **Linda Hardyman**.

Everyone completed the trek without mishap and indicated they looked forward to next year’s ride.

The team held a chili feed and silent auction in the DPS conference room as part of their fundraising efforts this year.

Almost \$750 was donated in support of the team by DPS folks, thanks to the many



The DPS team consisted of Sgt. Curt Harris, Inv. Kim Waychoff, Inv. Eric Burroughs, Tom Wortman, Linda Hardyman and Jessica Cohan.



Team member Linda Hardyman waves to the crowd while Jessica Cohan peddles behind her.

(Challenge, continued on page 33)

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who donated items for auction, brought in pots of outstanding chili and other fix'ens or came to the chili feed for lunch.

This helped the team to surpass its fundraising goal and set a new record of \$6,987 for the team.

Special thanks to everyone who helped make the chili feed a great success – especially to Tamara Holman and the rest of the ladies in the ABI office who did such a good job of making it all work.

This year, there were a total of 430 riders who collectively raised over \$364,000 for the benefit of the Alaska Chapter of the Lung Association. These funds are used for various worthy activities within Alaska to assist those



Team leader Sgt. Curt Harris feigns a collapse at the end of the Clean Air Challenge.

suffering from lung disease.

This includes the summer Champ Camp for children suffering from asthma. ■



Kim Waycoff and Sgt. Curt Harris pedal into Talkeetna.

SOME RUN REUNION A SUCCESS

BY JOHN GLASS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

For many years, **Claudia Sayles**, Special Olympics Executive Director in 1979, **Tom Clemons**, retired trooper and current Seward police chief and **Jess Doris**, SOME Coordinator for many years, talked about a Special Olympic Mileage Event run reunion.

In 2006, they got the ball rolling.

The event occurred between 1979 and 1991 for those of you who were not around

The purpose of the run was to raise money for Special Olympics. While Alaska started this event it, was later to become the Law Enforcement Torch Run in the Lower 48.

Teams participating in the SOME run consisted of 12 runners and ran in a relay across the state.

The runs were in length from 540 miles to over 1,200. The legs each runner ran were 8 miles.

Motor homes were used to sleep and house the runners.

The runs raised for Special Olympics were in excess of \$250,000. The original idea was developed by primarily two people – Clemons and retired AST Major Dean Bivins.

In late 2006, plans were starting to be formulated as to location and the date of the reunion. It was decided to hold the reunion in Wasilla and early May was the selected date.



Former SOME runners get together for a photo during the reunion. Starting in back row on left side (Ret.) Major Dean Bivins, AST Sgt. Henry Kozloff, (Ret.) Colonel John Murphy, DPS Deputy Commissioner John Glass, (Ret.) Tom Clemons. Front row, Scott Campbell, Nancy Stauber, (Ret.) Sgt Dan Weatherly.

Bivins was recruited to assist in the planning of the reunion. He contacted FOAST and was able to obtain financial assistance. FOAST's Laura Caperton also assisted in developing a mailing list and mailed the invitations for the reunion.

Retired Captain John Myers of Fairbanks drew one of his pictures of running bears to go on a T-shirt.

On May 11, an informal gathering was held at the residence of John Glass in Wasilla. The dinner was held the next night at the Grand View Lodge & Suites in Wasilla. There were 48 people in attendance on Friday evening and 42 for dinner on Saturday evening.

Some of the attendee's were, **Kathy (Wolgumuth) and Bill Georges** from New

York; **Warren Grant** from Idaho; **Dan and Maria Culbertson** from California; **Dan and Rosemary Decker** from Ohio; **Dean and Betty Bivins** from Anchorage; **Tom Anderson** from Anchorage; **Dave Drvenkar** from Fairbanks; **Nancy Stauber** and **Edna Stauber** from Anchorage; **Tom and Tricia Clemons** from Seward; **John and Arlene Murphy**; **Scott and Janie Campbell**; **John and Melinda Glass** all from Wasilla; **Brad and Karen Brown**, **Henry and Jodie Kozloff**, **Lisa Farber**; **Sandy Belcher**; **James Gallen** of Anchorage; **Jess and Charlene Doris**, **Pat and Nancy Patterson** from Eagle River; **Walt and Virginia Gilmour** and most of

(SOME, continued on page 34)

SOME, continued from page 33

their family from Palmer; **Joel and Annette Hard** from Palmer; **Dan Weatherly** from Homer; **Bruce and Ardie Lester** of Peters Creek and **Jody Lown**.

Also attending were **Ed Stauber's daughter, son-in-law and grandson, Douglas, Jay and Sunshine Aldrich**, of Wasilla.

Jess Doris, long time SOME Coordinator acted as the Emcee for the evening on Saturday night. The crowd got a great many laughs out of the stories told.

A door prize of a hand carved walking stick carved by Retired Major Bivins was won by **Cheryl Gilmour**.

It was great to see all of the former runners and the families that came with them. ■



Tom Clemons, retired AST first sergeant and current Seward police chief, tells stories at the SOME Run reunion. Clemons was one of the driving forces behind the charity run that eventually morphed into the nationally known Torch Run for Special Olympics.

CSO WINS SOME KIND OF WALKING STICK

BY CSO CHERYL GILMOUR, FAIRBANKS JUDICIAL SERVICES

CSO Cheryl Gilmour, of Fairbanks Judicial Services received a walking stick handmade by retired **Major Dean Bivens**, a runner of the former Special Olympics Mileage Event, or SOME run.

Gilmour won the walking stick in a drawing at the 25th Reunion of the SOME runner reunion.

Gilmour wore a T-Shirt designed by SOME runner, retired **Capt. John Myers**, for the event.

CSO Gilmour had to leave during the banquet prior to the drawing when her father and "ride" SOME runner, retired **Major Walt Gilmour**, was paged for a dive rescue call at a near by lake.

To see all the SOME runners you know the logo and slogan "SOME Troopers Never Quit" is so true.

When interviewed for the Law Enforcement Torch Run, the run that emerged from the SOME run, Ofc. Gilmour was able to relay her experiences of seeing the SOME trooper runners run for "the kids" – the special athletes.

Seeing the strength and character of the SOME runners, rehearing their stories and remembering those no longer with us made for a special evening.

A huge thanks to all those that participated and those who put together the reunion and Major Bivins for the awesome walking stick. ■



CSO Cheryl Gilmour, of Fairbanks Judicial Services received this walking stick handmade by retired Major Dean Bivens, a former SOME runner. Gilmour is also wearing the reunion T-shirt.

D.A.R.E. GOLF TOURNAMENT



Pictured at left: Capt. John Papasodora watches retired trooper Bruce Lester, at right, tee off during the 5th Annual D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc. Golf Tournament at the Eaglelen Golf Course on June 29. AST entered two teams in the golf tournament.

Pictured at right: Willi Evans, back left, and Ed Lohr watch as Ron Perkins sinks the putt during the golf tournament.



GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

BY MEGAN PETERS, PIO



Anchorage Police Department Chief Bob Heun and AST Col. Audie Holloway stand as the bell is rung to honor officers who died while on duty.



Anne Moen kisses the name place of her husband, Fish and Wildlife Trooper Jim Moen, who died in a plane crash while on duty June 25, 2001.



A trooper stands in front of the Police Memorial statue to honor officers who died while on duty.



The family of Anchorage Police Officer Dan Seely, who died while on duty on Oct. 26, 1996, kneels at the base of the Police Memorial statue.

Alaska Police Memorial Day on May 11 featured some new aspects to this year's ceremony to honor those who died while on duty in Alaska.

The layout of the ceremony was shifted around to accommodate the large crowd. Native dancer Darlene Heckler arranged to perform traditional Native dancing prior to the ceremony as a way to show her gratitude to the families who had lost their loved ones.

In addition, the bell for the final call

was placed at the center of the ceremony to allow everyone to watch and hear the bell toll was the other significant change in this year's ceremony.

Thankfully no new names were added to the memorial; however, there were new faces. For the first time, the family of a Juneau Police Officer killed in the line of duty was able to attend. Joining them at the ceremony was the sea of officers and troopers from around the state that had come to pay tribute to

their fallen brothers.

This year's ceremony was a bit different from the previous years. Each year Alaskans take the time to honor the fallen, but making the ceremony a "routine" and keeping it "convenient" does not do the sacrifice justice. Preparation for the event lasts for a few months.

Next year we will keep the tradition of honoring those lost while walking the thin blue line. We will also strive to keep the ceremony sacred. ■

DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT IN-SERVICE

BY JEANNE SWARTZ

The Alaska Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program continues in its successful mission of addressing drugged-driving concerns in Alaska. There are currently twenty-five DREs in Alaska, with four more to be trained by September, 2007.

On May 18, a DRE In-Service for all Alaska DREs was held at the Crime Lab. In attendance from AST were **Sgt. Troy Shuey**, Palmer; **Lt. Barry Wilson**, Anchorage; **Trp. Mike Zwiefel**, Seward; **Trp. Dan Sadloske**, Dillingham; and **Trp. Andrew Ballesteros**, Bethel, along with a number of DREs from municipal police agencies.

The featured speakers for this in-service were: Ernie Floegel, IACP Liaison to the DRE program for the Western Region, Ann Gordon from the Washington Toxicology Laboratory, and Colleen O'Bryant from the Crime Lab. All of the speakers gave excellent, informative reports.

Some interesting facts from this meeting came out. Sadloske was the first DRE to work at Arctic Man where driving under the influence are always a problem. Ballesteros is assisting the clinic in Bethel treating inhalant users to help them with diagnosing people under the influence of inhalants. The Washington Toxicology

Laboratory is really interested in the results of Ballesteros' work because the lab plans to publish research on impairment caused by inhalant abuse. Ballesteros' work may well be part of their study.

Some updates on the DRE program: In 2006, Alaska DREs performed 154 enforcement evaluations. At slightly over six evaluations per DRE, Alaska DREs are some of the most productive in the entire United States.

The 10 top drugs affecting drivers under arrest for DUI, (excluding alcohol) are, in descending order: cannabis (marijuana), Valium™, cocaine, methamphetamine, Xanax™, SOMA™, oxycodone, Ambien™, Effexor™ and diphenhydramine, the active ingredient in many cold medications.

This list comes from all DUI drug cases submitted to the Crime Lab in 2005.

DRE cases are making their way into the court. To better inform judges on the DRE program, there will be a DRE session at the upcoming judges' conference in October.

For other news about the Alaska DRE program, click on www.dot.state.ak.us/stwdplng/hwysafety/impaired_program_dps.sht ■

FORMER TROOPER CONSIDERED OLDEST COLORADO ACADEMY GRAD

Former Alaska State Trooper Lee Oly was featured in the Rocky Mountain News out of Denver on May 29 for being what is believed to be the oldest graduate of the Colorado State Patrol Academy.

At 57, Oly graduated from the academy in Golden, Colo in May to begin his career with the state patrol that unlike our own troopers, concentrate more on traffic enforcement and accident investigations in Colorado rather than cover the gamut of crimes.

Oly served with Alaska State Troopers for over 12 years and was commander of the Department of Public Safety Academy in Sitka.

Oly told the Rocky Mountain news he would like someday to be an instructor

at the Colorado State Patrol Academy.

"Right now, I'm concentrating on being a good trooper," Oly told a Rocky Mountain reporter.

He is assigned to the Colorado Springs area.

According to the article, Oly was 56 when he started his training and sailed through the rigorous 22-week academy, graduating first in his class and serving as class president.

Oly is considered a dedicated runner who works out daily and has even run the Boston Marathon three times. He had no problem keeping up with the younger recruits.

Oly left Alaska for Colorado as part of a deal with his wife, Cathy, who has relatives there the article said. ■

THE DPS QUARTERLY

SUMMER 2007

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