

The DPS Quarterly

A Department of Public Safety publication bringing professionalism and humanity together. Winter 2004

Inside Stories

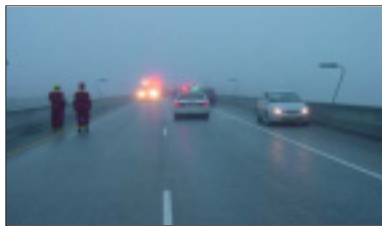
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Department of Public Safety Promotions

Alaska State Trooper Director **Colonel Julia Grimes** announced the following promotions:

Thomas Bowman:

Capt. Thomas Bowman, Retired, has been selected to fill the position of E Detachment Commander, effective October 1, 2004.

Capt. Bowman has 28 years of experience and dedicated service to the Alaska State Troopers and has extensive command experience.

Kid Chan:

Trp. Kid Chan was promoted to Corporal and assigned to the DPS Training Academy in Sitka. His promotion was effective November 16, 2004.

His experience and dedication is well suited to the high paced and demanding performance required to provide the level of instruction expected at the Training Academy.

Cpl. Chan joined the Alaska State Troopers in 1999, and on completion of the Academy, was assigned to B Detachment, Palmer Post. He was a regular shift OIC, FTO and member of SERT. With his transfer to Bethel Post, he was an Oversight Trooper for 6 villages and 4 VPSOs, and was responsible for investigation of misdemeanor and felony cases. Cpl. Chan is a Defensive Tactics Instructor; a TASER Instructor and has received advanced training in investigation techniques.

David Willson:

Trp. David Willson was promoted to Corporal and assigned to the DPS Training Academy in Sitka. His promotion was effective November 16, 2004.

His experience and dedication is well suited to the high paced and demanding performance required to provide the level of instruction expected at the Training Academy.

Cpl. Willson joined the Alaska State Troopers in 2001, and on completion of the Academy, he was assigned to Palmer Post and worked in Patrol until 2003 when he was assigned to the newly formed Burglary Suppression Unit. Over the next year he concentrated on investigating property crimes as the only member of the Burglary Suppression Unit. Trp. Willson was named the Mat-Su Crimestoppers Officer of the Year for 2003. He has acted as OIC and is trained in Advanced Accident Investigation, Vehicle Theft Investigation, and Insurance Fraud Investigations.

Each of the Corporal's new assignments will include the supervision and evaluation of academy students, to provide specialized training support to the division, to function as an academy instructor; and to develop training plans and testing devices used to evaluate student learning and performance.

Colonel Grimes announced the following promotions to Sergeants. These

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Promotions,

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Supervisors individually bring their unique qualifications and experiences to their positions, but collectively will bring their skills and leadership to the Division as they work toward the Division's core mission: "To preserve public peace, protect life, property and wildlife resources."

Jeffrey Laughlin:

Trp. Jeffrey Laughlin, C Detachment, Dillingham Post to Sergeant, C Detachment, Dillingham Post effective October 1, 2004.

Sgt. Laughlin has 10 years of law enforcement experience including five years as a police officer in Ketchikan. As a Trooper, Laughlin had been assigned to: Soldotna Patrol, Investigations, Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team, and most recently Dillingham Post. As Post Supervisor in Dillingham he will be responsible for the supervision of enforcement operations in the Dillingham and King Salmon Post areas.

Craig Allen:

Inv. Craig Allen, ABI Palmer, to Sergeant, B Detachment, Palmer Post effective October 1, 2004.

Sgt. Allen is an 11-year veteran with the Alaska State Troopers and has been assigned to: Palmer Post, Glennallen Post, and the Alaska Bureau of Investigations. He is also a Polygraph Examiner and serves on the Tactical Dive Unit and SERT. Sgt. Allen's assignment will be as a Palmer Patrol Sergeant.

Matthew Dobson:

Trp. Matthew E. Dobson, ABWE Bethel Post, to Sergeant, ABWE Bethel Post Supervisor, effective October 1, 2004.

Sgt. Dobson joined the Department in 1996 and has been assigned to: ABWE Sitka Post, the Wildlife Investigation Bureau, and Bethel Post where he is currently stationed. He is an accomplished Investigator and Department Pilot. Sgt. Dobson's new responsibilities will entail providing direct supervision of the ABWE operations of Bethel, Aniak, McGrath and St. Marys Posts.

James Helgoe:

Cpl. James Helgoe, Training Academy to Sergeant "B" Detachment, Talkeetna Post effective December 1, 2004.

Sgt. Helgoe began his law enforcement career in 1993 with the Palmer Police Department, and also served with the Seward Police Department until joining the Alaska State Troopers in 1999. He has been assigned to: Patrol and Investigations in Soldotna. He was promoted to Corporal in 2002, and served as a Staff Instructor at the DPS Training Academy in Sitka. Sgt. Helgoe will be the B Detachment, Talkeetna Post, as Post Supervisor, and responsible for enforcement operations and the day-to-day supervision of the Troopers at the Talkeetna Post.

Andy Evarts:

Trp. Raymond "Andy" Evarts, C Detachment, King Salmon Post, to Corporal DPS Training Academy in Sitka, effective January 1, 2005.

Trp. Evarts joined the Department March 2001 and was stationed in D Detachment, Fairbanks Patrol. He was a Field Training Officer, VPSO Oversight Trooper, and a certified SCUBA Diver. He assisted in the Arctic Man Detail in 2002 and served as a TAC Officer at the Academy.

Trp. Evarts transferred to C Detachment, King Salmon Post, where he continued his VPSO Oversight duties and assisted in the VPO Academies held in King Salmon.

He is a State Pilot and attended the Firearms Instructor training.

Cpl. Evarts' experience and dedication is well suited to the high paced and demanding performance required to provide the level of instruction expected at the Training Academy.

Keith Mallard:

Sgt. Keith Mallard, E Detachment, Girdwood Post to Lieutenant, Director's Staff, Division Operations, effective December 1, 2004.

Sgt. Mallard is a 9-year law enforcement veteran. He joined the Department in 1997 and was stationed in D Detachment, Fairbanks Post. He became a Field Training Officer, the first Dual Purpose Canine Handler and a member of SERT.

In 2000, Sgt. Mallard transferred to C Detachment, Aniak Post where, as a rural patrol Trooper, he supervised VPSOs and worked closely with Tribal and Village Police Officers. In September 2002, he was promoted to Sergeant and became the Post Supervisor for E Detachment, Girdwood Post.

Lt. Mallard has demonstrated his enthusiasm and commitment to the Alaska State Troopers and will be a welcome addition to the Headquarters team.

He will be assigned special projects, and oversight of the Field Training and Evaluation Program.

In addition, he will supervise the Public Information Office along with an Administrative Clerk II. ■

Successful Location Bids

Colonel Julia Grimes announced the following successful bidders. "Each will bring experience that is suited to their new assignments, and I have confidence they will further the committed efforts of the Division in meeting our core mission and responsibilities in rural enforcement."

Sgt. Rick Quinn, AST C Detachment, Dillingham Post, to AST D Detachment, Fairbanks, Patrol Shift Supervisor for Fairbanks Patrol;

Trp. Tavis Allam, AST C Detachment Bethel, to AST C Detachment, Dillingham;

Trp. Pat Nelson, AST D Detachment, Healy, to AST A Detachment, Ketchikan;

Trp. Clint Songer, ABWE, Kenai-Prince William Sound Region, Cordova, to ABWE, Southeast Region, Wrangell;

Sgt. Mark Ridling, AST B Detachment, Palmer Patrol to AST E Detachment, Soldotna, Patrol Shift Supervisor for Soldotna Patrol;

Cpl. Matthew Hightower, AST Sitka Academy, to ABWE, Mat-Su Region, Big Lake;

Sgt. Rodney Johnson, AST B Detachment, Talkeetna Post, to AST C Detachment, Nome, Post Supervisor;

Trp. Tage Toll, AST D Detachment, Fairbanks Patrol, to ABWE-Mat-Su Region, Glennallen;

Trp. Alan Carvajal, AST D Detachment, Fairbanks to AST D Detachment, Healy; **(Successful Bids, continued on page 3)**

Successful Bids,

continued from page 2

Trp. Brent Johnson, ABWE Kenai-Prince William Sound Region, Soldotna Post, to ABWE Northern Region, Tok;

Trp. Vic Aye, AST E Detachment, Soldotna, to Judicial Services, Task Force, Anchorage assigned to the Alaska Fugitive Task Force sponsored by the U. S. Marshal's office;

Trp. Robin Morrisett, ABWE, Southwestern Region, Dutch Harbor, to ABWE Kenai-Prince William Sound Region, Cordova;

Trp. Todd Womack, AST C Detachment, Bethel, to ABADe, Major Offenders Unit;

Trp. Rachel Foster, AST D Detachment, Fairbanks, to AST D Detachment, Nenana;

Trp. Ramin Dunford, AST Fairbanks, ABI to AST C Detachment, Bethel;

Trp. Adam Benson, AST A Detachment, Ketchikan, to AST D Detachment, Fairbanks;

Trp. Katrina Malm, AST E Detachment, Girdwood, to Wildlife Investigations Unit, Alaska Bureau of Investigations;

Trp. Michael Wooten, AST B Detachment, Palmer, to Wildlife Investigations Unit, Alaska Bureau of Investigations;

Trp. Jeff Evanoff, AST E Detachment Seward to AST E Detachment, Girdwood;

Trp. Ronald Hayes, AST B Detachment, Palmer, to AST E Detachment, Girdwood;

Trp. Michelyn Grigg, AST B Detachment, Talkeetna, to ABI, Anchorage;

Trp. Nathan Bucknall, AST C Detachment, Kotzebue, to ABI, Mat-Su;

Trp. Adam Benson, AST A Detachment, Ketchikan, to AST D Detachment, Fairbanks;

Trp. Curtis Vik, AST E Detachment, Soldotna, to ABI, Mat-Su;

Trp. Mike Cresswell, AST E Detachment, Soldotna, to, ABWE, Bethel;

Inv. Mitch Doerr, Anchorage, ABI Wildlife Investigations Unit, Anchorage, to ABWE, Dutch Harbor;

Trp. David Bump, Fairbanks, AST D Detachment, Fairbanks, to AST C Detachment, Dillingham;

Trp. Bryan Barlow, AST E Detachment, Ninilchik, to AST A Detachment, Ketchikan; and

Trp. Harold Miller, AST E Detachment, Soldotna, to AST C Detachment, Kotzebue. ■

Red Ribbon Campaign Kick Off

Federal, State and Municipal officials gathered for the annual kick off of the Red Ribbon campaign, an effort to support and recognize a drug-free lifestyle.

In his proclamation, **Governor Frank Murkowski** expressed his concern about the problems caused by drugs and alcohol in Alaska, and the positive steps he has to combat the availability of drugs in our great state.

Last year, Governor Murkowski included 20 new trooper positions in his budget. The new positions were approved by the legislature, and are now in the process of being filled both through transfers and new hires. Two of those positions have been assigned to the Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement, or ABADe, of which **Captain Ed Harrington** is the commander. ABADe

has the daunting task of fighting drugs and alcohol on the supply side. Their job is to stem the flow of illegal drugs into our communities. It's a big challenge, but through additional Troopers, dynamic enforcement programs and excellent cooperative relationships with municipal and federal law enforcement agencies, it is becoming more difficult than ever to smuggle drugs or alcohol to Alaskan communities.

In 2003, ABADe officers seized more than 15 thousand grams of cocaine, 3 thousand grams of methamphetamine, 60 thousand grams of marijuana and more than 5 thousand marijuana plants, and more than 900 gallons of alcohol. Efforts are being made to do even more this year.

While the ABADe troopers work to reduce the supply side of drug and alcohol enforcement, the Troopers contract with retired Trooper sergeant **Bob Sanders** to spearhead the work on the demand side through his leadership at D.A.R.E., the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program that impacts thousands of children across Alaska each year. Dozens of Troopers and VPSOs have been trained to take DARE into the schools of our com-

(Red Ribbon, continued on page 4)



(Left) Senator Lisa Murkowski, Colonel Julia Grimes, and Mayor Mark Begich participated in the Red Ribbon Campaign Kick Off.

Red Ribbon,

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munities, in an effort to reach our youth before the dealers and bootleggers do.

In her comments during the kick off, **Colonel Julia Grimes** commented, "Drug enforcement and education are two areas where I can speak from experience. During my almost 22 years with the Alaska State Troopers, I committed twelve years to the cat and mouse game of outsmarting drug and alcohol smugglers. As a trooper pilot, I flew many missions in support of drug efforts statewide. During my service in rural Alaska, I volunteered for DARE training and took the DARE program to two Bristol Bay village schools. As a DARE Instructor, I rode across a frozen lake on an oversized dog sled pulled by a snowmachine to get to my class of fifth and six graders and flew my Trooper Cessna 185 to another, both of which may have been a first for unique delivery systems for drug education to our youth. I was privileged to handle K-9 Veteran, a drug detection dog who successfully sniffed out a quarter million dollars in drugs and cash seizures.



Colonel Julia Grimes discussed her work in drug enforcement during the Red Ribbon Kick Off.

The many years of hard work in drug enforcement by devoted and innovative Troopers has been ongoing for decades. One of my most important mentor's, and my husband of 19 years, retired Trooper **First Sgt. Jim Grimes** was the recipient of the very first "Enrique Camarena" award presented in Alaska in October of 1993. It was presented to him by then

head of "Alaskans for Drug Free Youth", and now **U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski**.

Now, as the work continues on all fronts, let me take a moment, on behalf of Governor Murkowski and the Alaska State Troopers, to thank each of you here for your courage, dedication and commitment to keeping our kids, to keeping all Alaskans, drug free." ■

AST Recruitment Joined the Army PaYS Program



Colonel Grimes and Lt. Colonel Barrowman (Army) signing to become a partner of the PaYS program. The signing was conducted on October 19th.

The Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) Program is a recruiting initiative developed by the United States Army Recruiting Command (USAREC) to appeal to

young people interested in obtaining a quality civilian job after serving in the Army. The Army trains PaYS soldiers in teamwork and leadership skills providing them with the necessary background to excel in the management and supervisory if offered by the partner. The ultimate benefactor of PaYS is the individual who values service, skill training, and a bright future with an employer after completing their training with the Army. Each PaYS soldier has been pre-qualified morally, mentally, and physically and has had a favorable background investigation completed on them prior to entry into the US Army. As a Partner in this program, Recruitment will consider all qualified PaYS soldiers for employment with the Department of Public Safety provided there are firm future openings at that time. Recruitment feels that this will be an excellent opportunity to recruit and hire qualified applicants. ■

Four Weeks Of SHARE

By Regor Cabalfin, Commissioner's Office

This year's SHARE campaign officially started September 27 (statewide) and October 4 for the Department of Public Safety. Out of the 730 members of the Department, we were able to gather donations totaling \$22,055.00 from 103 very kind-hearted individuals. The month-long program gave each key worker the chance to be creative in inviting donors to participate in a number of group activities and donate to the charitable organization(s) of their choice. This year's SHARE Key Workers are: **Armida Yee**, AST; **Cassandra Byrne**, Fire Prevention; **Jan Donovan**, Admin. Services (Anchorage); **Luci Christopher**, Admin. Services (Juneau); **Willie Cook**, Statewide Services; **Ceres Tolley**, AST C Detachment; and **Ed Kaiwara** of the ABC Board. **Kathy Crenshaw** of the Juneau Commissioner's Office served as one of the two Coordinators for the Department.

To everyone who contributed financially and to those who unselfishly donated their time and efforts to make this year's SHARE Fundraising Campaign happen, a heartfelt thank you! ■



On October 29, 2004, the staff of the Department of Public Safety's Headquarters and the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (SCDL) held a Pie Throwing fundraiser for the Alaskan State Employee SHARE Campaign. Willie Cook from the Laboratory organized this year's event. For a cash donation, staff members could practice their aim and hurl cream pies at David Schade, Director of Statewide Services or Chris Beheim, Laboratory Supervisor. Each of them got a good dose of sweetness as they posed as targets. Thanks go out to them, the staff that contributed, and to Jim Dove for constructing the backstop. Over \$100 was raised during this event and the total number of employees that pledged donations increased over 6 times last year's participants.

From the Desk of Chaplain Jerry O. Norman

In this day and age of hurry and stress we find ourselves often in a very vulnerable position. How often do we have someone come along and start "pushing our buttons" instead of assisting us with those major and minor irritations of every day life?

Recently I was given an article that talked about handling this sort of person. Instead of letting them get the upper hand in your life's situations, you are able to take control. In brief there are 6 different things to consider in dealing with your "button pusher":

1. Tone:

Tone is highly important, as you can negate the words you are saying with the way you sound. Call your button pusher and ask for a meeting with them. The best tone is warm. Warmth conveys safety and care, and that stands the best chance of

keeping your button pusher from becoming defensive. Remember that in a sandbox fight, there needs to be an adult present to keep some safety and order. If you can't be the grownup, don't depend on the button pusher to be either. Get into the adult role, then call for the talk

2. Speak from experience:

When you talk to your button pusher, speak from your experience and life. Talk from the heart. Use "I" statements as much as possible. Stay with what you feel, think, and perceive. Talk from the heart.

3. Affirm the good:

It is good to begin your talk with an affirmation of the good both with the button pusher and with the relationship. Very often the offender does not see the problem because of past issues in their life. Affirmation of good can dis-arm a negative

situation and cause them to hear from a loved position rather than from a guarded one.

4. Hear him or her out:

It sounds ironic, but the conversation stands a better chance of you making your point if you will, early in the talk, be quiet and listen. If you hear them out, you will find that they will be more attentive to what you have to say since they had a chance to "get it off their chest". Hearing out your button pusher at the beginning of the conversation clears his thoughts and allows your words to penetrate.

5. Listen empathetically:

Don't make the mistake of correcting their perception of you. If they have a valid point, recognize it, apologize, and agree to do something about changing your situation. Admitting to our own ar-

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eas of fault can help de-fuse these issues that cause friction with your button pusher

6. State the problem:

Make it direct and simple. Don't beat around the bush, but don't be unloving either. It is about clarity and simplicity so that they can understand it as well as possible. You want to state what it is your person is doing and how it affects you and others.

There is a scriptural principal here that says that if your brother has a problem with you, go to them and resolve the problem. By doing this, you save your brother. Also, pray for one another.

God bless you as we approach this holiday season.

(Contact Chaplain Norman at (907) 345-2813, home; (907) 250-9659, cell; or chaplainjerrynorman@msn.com) ■

Laurie Heck Elected To Board Of Trustee

As you might know, Alaska State Trooper **Bruce A. Heck** was killed in the line of duty January 11, 1997, while serving with the Alaska State Troopers. Trp. Heck left behind his wife, **Laurie**, and children from a former marriage.

Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) has announced the recent election of Laurie Heck to the COPS' national Board as Pacific Region Trustee. Mrs. Heck will act as liaison between the COPS' National Board and the COPS' chapters and their members in the states of Alaska, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington.

COPS is a national non-profit organization established in 1984, to assist in rebuilding the shattered lives of surviving families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty as determined by Federal criteria. Furthermore, COPS provides training to law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues and educates the public of the need to support the law enforcement profession and its survivors. ■



Major Joe Masters, Sgt. Rodney Johnson, and Sgt. Brian Wassmann received the Alaska State Trooper's First Place Award during the International Association of Chief's of Police (IACP) Chief's Challenge ceremony during the IACP Conference in Los Angeles, California. The award recognizes highway safety programs which target seat belt use, DUI, and speeding. The Alaska State Troopers achieved first place honors for State Agencies with between 251 and 500 sworn personnel.



Colonel Julia Grimes presented Bruce Bowler of S.E.A.D.O.G.S. (South East Alaska Dogs for Organized Ground Searches) with the first ever State of Alaska/Alaska State Troopers Search and Rescue "Lifetime Achievement Award" in recognition of Bowler's "Many Years of Dedication and Selfless Sacrifice to the Citizens of the State of Alaska and A Detachment, Alaska State Troopers."

Of those to whom much is given, much is required. And when at some future date the high court of history sits in judgment on each one of us - recording whether in our brief span of service we fulfilled our responsibilities to the state -our success or failure, in whatever office we may hold, will be measured by the answers to four questions - were we truly men of courage...were we truly men of judgment.. were we truly men of integrity...were we truly men of dedication?
John F. Kennedy

Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement

103rd Civil Support Team to Dedicate New Building To Fallen Guardsman

Building will honor Chief Warrant Officer James A. Moen

By KALEI BROOKS



The 103rd Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil support Team Response Facility was dedicated to James A. Moen.

CAMP DENALI, Alaska—The team of Alaska Army and Air National Guard members who provide immediate response to weapons of mass destruction attacks against the United States dedicated its new building on Fort Richardson in honor of **Chief Warrant Officer James A. Moen**, October 21, 2004.

A plaque was put up to recognize the tremendous contributions Chief Warrant



Anne Moen cut the ribbon dedicating a new building on Fort Richardson in honor of Trooper James A. Moen.

Officer Moen made to the Alaska National Guard and the Alaska Department of Public Safety.

He was an experienced state and military pilot who died June 25, 2001, in an airplane crash during a sport-fishing patrol.

Chief Warrant Officer Moen dedicated more than 27 years to his military career and spent 18 years with the Alaska Department of Public Safety, Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection.

The response facility for the 103rd Civil Support Team (CST), which consists of 22 full-time soldiers and airmen from the Alaska National Guard, encompasses 12,381 square feet. The \$1.5 million dollar building, located next to Fort Richardson’s Bryant Army Airfield, postures the 103rd CST for rapid response.

“It allows the team immediate access to aircraft and road networks that help project the team to any part of Alaska,” said **Maj. Chris Van Alstine**, deputy commander of 103rd CST. “We provide immediate 24-hour response to weapons of mass destruction.”



Trooper James A. Moen died in the line of duty in an airplane crash on June 25, 2001 while on a sport-fishing patrol.

The CST is designed specifically to work for civilian responders in the event of a terrorist disaster. The 103rd CST continuously trains with Alaska’s responders, working with law enforcement, the fire department, and medical responders from communities and villages across Alaska. ■

Dedication Of The Alaska Army And Air National Guard Facility

COMMENTS BY COLONEL JULIA GRIMES



“Thank you for your invitation to attend this dedication, and briefly speak to the honor we now extend to a fallen Trooper. I can’t tell you how much it means to every Alaska State Trooper to know that one of our own is remembered in such a significant way.

Jim Moen and I graduated together from Alaska State Trooper Academy, Class number 37, in April of 1983. Although no real challenge for Jim, the riggers of a “boot camp like” program were a new experience for me. With his sense of humor

and his help, he made that 14 weeks far more enjoyable for me and we formed the bond that tends to unite the members of the law enforcement family. This is the bond that connects us all to those who have gone before.

Jim and I were friends at the academy, and after graduation, Jim, his wife Anne, and I remained friends, even if we didn’t get to see each other very often.

Then, as often happens in careers like law enforcement or the military, assignments took us in different directions, and the years moved by. Although Jim and I served in two very different capacities with the Troopers, Jim in Wildlife Enforcement, and me going into drug enforcement and then rural enforcement, we both shared a love of flying and a deep pride in being a Trooper.

Jim’s days were filled with flying, looking for bad guys, *catching* bad guys and looking for opportunities to be of service to the public...sometimes, just looking down at the beauty and wonder that is Alaska and her wildlife, and marveling as I

often did, that we were actually getting paid to do this job from the cockpit of a bright blue tail dragger bearing our badge. In other words, Jim was doing the job every day and loving it.

And so it was the day he died; doing a job in which he *took* enormous pride and from which he *received* great satisfaction.

When a trooper dies, the effect resonates throughout the collective heart of the law enforcement family. Jim’s death was untimely; there is no way we can rectify what happened that day. But we can honor his life and his contribution to law enforcement, as well as the dedication to service that defined how Jim performed his duties.

Today’s dedication of this building in Jim’s name will act as a reminder to that call to duty. Each time we see his name here, we will remember the man, the family, and friends who miss him, and be encouraged to be truer to our calling as warriors and guardians. It’s a fine tribute and I don’t know about you but I can see him grinning.....■

ABWE Southeast Region

BY CAROLYN S. HALL, JUNEAU

The warm days of summer are past us again as we head into the wonderful Southeast Alaska rainy season. The rain comes right in time for the hunting season. Life in Southeast seems to be extremely busy these days, Troopers heading out for TDY patrols, boats shifting locations, seasonal PSTs going on LWOP status. We are finally once again fully staffed. All our manned posts have personnel stationed at them.

Welcome back to **Trp. Clint Songer**, Wrangell post, who has returned after a 2 year hiatus in Cordova. Southern Southeast has been up to their elbows in Geoduck and Sea Cucumber slime. **Sgt. Bernard Chastain** is probably at this point wondering why he left the interior to move to Ketchikan. The troops there have been working some major commercial fishery cases along with game patrols.

Trp. Jeremy Baum and **Tech Charlie Johnson** patrolled Wrangell prior to Songer’s arrival.

Trp. Mark Finses was sent to work a couple sub-legal moose cases in Wrangell. **Trp. Dan Shamhart** patrolled the Wrangell/Petersburg/Kake/Kiui Moose hunts. One question that arose is how many moose heads will fit into a 32 cubic foot freezer?

For Northern Southeast Moose season **Trp. Todd Machacek** handled the Kake/Kiui Island patrol with help from Anchorage’s Seasonal **Tech David Craig**. After this Todd went TDY to Yakutat for the moose season there.

Trp. Shaun Kuzakin (Sitka Post), **Trp. Glenn Knapp** (Juneau Post), **Trp. Andy Savland** (Hoonah Post) also patrolled the moose in Yakutat. **Trp. Scott Carson** (Sitka Post) and **Sgt. Steve Hall** (Juneau

Post) assisted **Trp. Pat McMullin** in Haines with the moose hunt there. **Trp. Rob Welch** (Juneau Post) went TDY to Gustavus to handle the moose hunt. This season brought approx. 18 illegal moose cases.

Trp. Clyde Campbell has been helping out on Prince of Wales Island with the deer season. **Trp. Glenn Taylor** spent some time in Juneau working awaiting the birth of his daughter **Katalian**. **Trp. Herv Ibarra** was off to the NASAR Conference along with Rob Welch and Scott Carson. Prince of Wales seems to have its fair share of SARs so this training will be beneficial. **Trp. Tom Lowy** has been keeping his feet wet, spending time taking the *P/V Interceptor* out on Sport Fish and Commercial Fish Patrols along with searching for overdue boaters.

(ABWE Southeast, continued on page 9)

ABWE Southeast,

continued from page 8

The new *P/V Enforcer* is estimated to be in Ketchikan by the end of December. PST McClennan has spent the past few months helping out off and on the *P/V Woldstad*. Between patrols he has returned to help at Ketchikan Post. The latest patrol was the Bering Sea King Crab. The building of the new *Enforcer* has kept BO III **Laurence Nagy** working in

and out of Texas. Nagy is currently at home on leave “with 3 boys” rebounding quickly. We are sure he will return to work as soon as possible.

Lt. Todd Sharp spent 10 days in Anchorage in Scuba Dive Instructor School. As time permits he will soon get Sgt. Steve Hall back in the water. PSTs **Ken McIntosh** and **Charlie Johnson** have been busy working with NMFS doing JEA boardings, this along with the post duties have kept them on the go.

We are finally coming into the 21st century in Southeast. The past 2 months we have seen delivery of 4 new patrol trucks, new computers, and digital cameras for the troops. We have sold off 4 boats, 2 of which were open Boston Whalers, a riverboat and the *P/V Spiridon*. The *P/V Integrity* was transferred to the University of Alaska Fairbanks, fishery program here in Juneau.

From all of us in Southeast have a wonderful and safe holiday season. ■

Southwestern Region ABWE

By: TRP. RALF LYSDAHL

Well, it has been a while since a report came out from the Southwestern neck of the woods and I thought it might be a good time to update everyone on what exactly has been going on out here. February brought a new sergeant to Dutch Harbor. **Sgt. Greg Garcia** and his family arrived and they have adjusted to the island life well. Being as they were stationed in Hoonah at one time, they are familiar with island life. Dutch Harbor post has been busy as always with commercial groundfish and crab fisheries, along with special charter operations. In April, the *P/V Stimson* was chartered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to observe and tag walrus near the edge of the ice pack in the Bering Sea. This provided the crew of the *P/V Stimson* and myself, with a very up close and personal look at the loud, foul smelling, but amusing creatures. All in all, it was a very fun and informative trip.

In the summer months, the *P/V Stimson* once again participated in the 2004 Bristol

Bay Red Salmon fishery program. There were many new faces on the boat for TDY personnel.

Trp. Rob Hunter from Haines came out to play off the big boat and Public Safety

Tech’s **Brian Belleville** and **Dave Wolfe** were also onboard for logistical support. The weather was wonderful this year, sunny and warm. It was different having (ABWE SW, continued on page 10)



Sgt. Greg Garcia and Jim Stenglein and his son, Joe. Sgt. Garcia presents Jim Stenglein with his 15 year pin.



The *P/V Stimson* was chartered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to observe and tag walrus near the edge of the ice pack in the Bering Sea.



The ship’s personnel was able to get up close and personal with walrus.

ABWE Southwestern, continued from page 9



Rob Morrisett holds his going away gift, as he poses with his wife Tita, and daughters Cassandra and Christina.

to worry about sunburn, rather than being cold and wet all the time, when out in the skiffs, but no one complained as far as I heard. There were a few rough days, but otherwise a really good season for

weather and fish. Towards the end of the fishery, the *P/V Stimson* loaded the *P/V Kvichak* onto the deck and headed for Seward to drop it off and go out on a sea lion charter in Prince William Sound.

When the charter was all said and done, the *P/V Stimson* went in to shipyard in Seward for the biannual maintenance and repairs during August and into September. The crew and boat returned home after being out of port for a total of 3 months and everyone was ready for a little break.

This fall is bringing a few new changes to the post. **Trp. Rob Morrisett** is transferring to Cordova post effective November 15, 2004. We wish Rob and his family the best in his new digs and hope the transition is smooth for all. At Rob's going away party, the post also recognized **James Stenglein** for his 15 years of service to the State of Alaska. Jim is a valued crewman aboard the *P/V Stimson* and keeps things running as smooth as possible.

So as the year winds down and there are no more patrols scheduled for the *P/V Stimson*, everyone is busy catching up on projects that have been put aside, and trying to get ahead until the next year starts anew. We wish everyone a safe and joyous upcoming holiday season. ■

ABWE Kenai/Prince William Sound

BY SGT. GLENN GODFREY, JR.

Another summer season has come and gone, and with it, like the seasons, there have been changes. The Kenai Peninsula / Prince William Sound Region has seen more than its share of these changes. First, **Trp. Travis Hedlund** left us to go work down the street, and then viola he was back. He brought back with him stories of pursuits and fights and long dark nights.

Then another familiar face showed up in our place, a former Major coming back to his roots. With him comes years of experience and wisdom, horses, goats, chickens, turkeys etc. He has been ceremonially named the "sheriff of North Kenai". It's un-retired **Major Jim Cockrell!** What a welcome addition. We also welcome **Trp. Darrel Christensen** from down the street. Christensen will be our eye in the sky, taller than any of us, contrary to his nickname. In Seward, we are excited to have **Trp. Marc Cloward**. He has jumped in with both feet, and kept

those feet out of the air and on the ground and in the water.

In Cordova, we welcome **Rob Morrisett** who was somehow able to escape from the clutches of Dutch Harbor. He's already trying to figure out how to use the *P/V Stimson* in some of the local rivers. To keep Rob in check we have a new clerk **Sheryl Glasen**, who also has her work cut out for her keeping **Sgt. Paul McConell** under control.

Sadly, with change also come good-byes. We've had to say so long to **Trp. Brent Johnson** who found the tropical weather of the Peninsula unbearable and headed north to Tok. Good luck Brent, **Mariah** and **Madison**. May the northern lights keep you warm at night. **Trp. Clint Songer** packed his bags and headed even further south to Wrangell where the mountain goats trim your grass for you. **Jason Eagley** has moved on to fly, fly, fly, and fly some more. We wish all of you good luck.

In other news, **Trp. Lisa Alleva** is still in Girdwood and has provided several wild animals homes over this last summer. **Trps. Travis Bordner** and **Todd Vanliere** love their new boat the *P/V Augustine*. They have both kept busy with sport fisheries and moose seasons. If not on the road, they can often be found at the cabin in the Caribou Hills or on their boat.

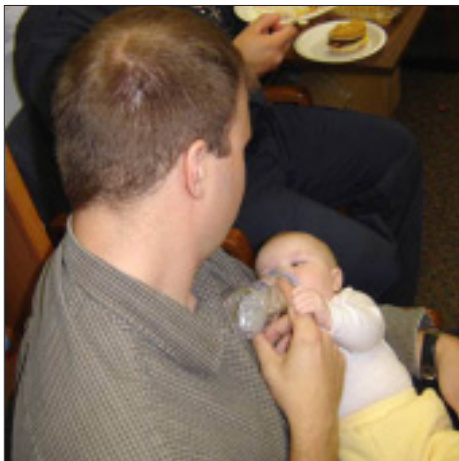
Lt. Steve Bear is spending a productive three months in Quantico Va., at the FBI National Academy. From what I hear, there is no finer institution in the country. While jogging one day, (yes I said he was jogging) he actually ran into **President George Bush** (not literally) and got to shake his hand. I just hope he didn't get himself a job in homeland security that will keep him from coming back. Sgt. McConell is holding down the fort in Cordova working closely with **Trps. Tony Beck, Lisa Alleva** and **Marc Cloward** in his outposts. As usual Trp. Beck made
(ABWE Kenai, continued on page 11)

ABWE Kenai,

continued from page 10

good use of his boat making cases and saving lives, and having fun.

Sgt. Glenn Godfrey, well he has been glued to his desk for the last few months, and rumor has it there is another munchkin running around his house. However, we are unable to confirm this, as nobody has been able to count all of the little heads in his 15-passenger bus. If he applies for a CDL, then we can safely assume that there has been some family growth. **Trp. Todd Mountain**, as usual got himself a moose and several deer, securing moose burgers for the next century of post barbecues. At last count **Trp. Alex Arduser** had bagged himself a moose, caribou, deer, sheep, goat, and ducks, but not yet a wife. **Trp. Dan Dahl** has himself a house and a dog, which he often reminds us is a huge responsibility. Just wait Dan, just wait. It's a good thing you don't have any hair left to lose. Between dockside boardings in Homer, we don't often let **George Parks** out of the shop since his hands always have ball bearing grease or outboard oil on them. Finally, **Dena Bronson** is still here keeping us all in check. She catches all the mistakes the Sgt. and Lt. miss (not that the Lt. *would* ever miss or even make a mistake). So, if you are ever in the neighborhood, stop on by and have a cup of Dena's famous coffee, legend says that it is strong enough to bring the dead to life. All I know is I have a funny twitch in my left eye and I can type 300 words a minute after a cup. ■



Trp. Brent Johnson handles meal time and feeds his first child...instead of himself.



Sgt. Glenn Godfrey, Jr. (left) presented Trp. Brent Johnson with a plaque of appreciation during his farewell.



Trp. Travis Hedlund is hot on the trail of every illegal emu on the Peninsula!

They Can Run But...

AST Wildlife Enforcement personnel conducted routine vessel boardings as part of the Bristol Bay Red King Crab fishery patrol program. On October 23, Troopers boarded the *F/V Aleutian Mariner* and conducted routine crew license checks.

What they found was not routine. One of the crewmembers had a warrant for his arrest; wanted for escaping community custody from Washington Department of

Corrections. The individual was subject to worldwide extradition following his arrest, and to be remanded without bail until the Washington extradition team could take custody of him. The subject was arrested and charged as a Fugitive from Justice and was remanded to Unalaska Police Department's jail until the following day when he was transported to the Anchorage jail pending extradition to Washington. ■

AST Detachment News

A Detachment News

By RDII MARIANNE THOMSON, AST KETCHIKAN

A Fond Farewell:

Ketchikan Post bids a fond farewell to **Trp. Adam Benson** and family, who will be making their move to Fairbanks in November. Trp. Benson will literally get his career off the ground, once again, with the opportunity to make use of his pilot's license in Fairbanks. The Benson family will be dearly missed.

Speaking of Moving...

RDIII Shelly Dunn, ACIII Linda Deal, Capt. Kurt Ludwig, and Lt. Rodney Dial have been diligently working toward designing, outfitting, organizing and preparing for Ketchikan Post's move to its new location tentatively scheduled for February 2005.

The legislature approved funds for the design of the new facility in 2001, and funds for construction in 2003. Ketchikan Post has been at its present location since 1972.

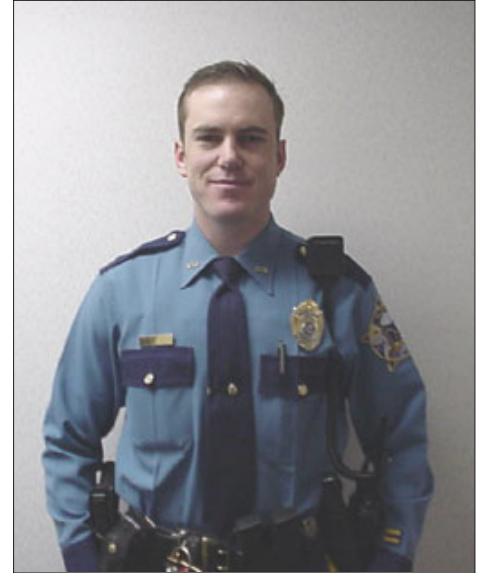
Commissioner Bill Tandeske was in Ketchikan on November 1st when Ketchikan Gateway Borough **Mayor Mike Salazar** officially handed over the keys to the A Detachment Headquarters/ Ketchikan Post building. Also on hand were **Senator Bert Stedman, Retired DPS Commissioner Dick Burton, Capt. Ludwig, Sgt. Lonny Piscoya, Trp. Benson, Klawock Trp. Bob Claus, Gretchen Pence, Linda Deal and Shelly Dunn.**

Set to Sail Soon:

The *P/V Enforcer* sea trials are currently underway in Texas. ABWE is anticipating the vessel's delivery to Ketchikan during the second week of December.

Out and About:

Ketchikan Post welcomes **Trp. Patrick Nelson**, who transferred to Ketchikan from Healy in October.



Trp. Patrick Nelson welcomed in Ketchikan.

Trps. Mark Eldridge, Mark Finses and Shane Nicholson were successful on an August deer hunt. Trp. Eldridge bagged the deer.

Ketchikan Post welcomed ABWE Tech **Charles Johnson** in September. Johnson was hard at work from Day-One. Among his tasks were the confiscation of a moose in the Wrangell area.



PHOTO BY HALL ANDERSON, KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough completed the sale of the former Gateway Club Building to the State for use as the new Headquarters of the Alaska State Troopers Detachment A, which serves all of Southeast Alaska. Borough Mayor Michael Salazar handed over the keys to State Commissioner of Public Safety Bill Tandeske during a brief ceremony on November 1, 2004. Mayor Salazar thanked Governor Frank Murkowski, Commissioner Tandeske, the Borough Assembly, and former Assembly member and former State Commissioner of Public Safety Dick Burton for their support in seeing this project through to fruition. The new facility is located at 7366 North Tongass Highway.



ABWE Tech Charles Johnson arrived in Ketchikan in September.

Six Arrested in POW, Ketchikan Raids:

ABWE Trps. **Herv Ibarra and Glenn Taylor**, Klawock Post, along with Ketchikan Trps. Eldridge, Nicholson, and (A Detachment, continued on page 13)

A Detachment, continued from page 12



Trps. Mark Eldridge, Mark Finses, and Shane Nicholson had a successful deer hunt in August.

Nelson, and SEANET Investigators in Ketchikan, assisted the Craig Police Department in raiding eight locations and arresting six people on felony drug charges in Craig, Ketchikan, and Klawock on October 25.

The raids followed a long-term investigation by several agencies regarding the use, sale, and delivery of Methamphetamine and prescription drugs. Trooper Investigates MVA; Seizes 43 Grams of Cocaine

Trp. Walter Blajeski, Klawock Post, responded to a rollover accident at mile 12 of the Hydagurg Road on Prince of Wales Island on October 22. The driver was arrested for driving under the influence. During a routine search prior to placing the suspect in the patrol vehicle, Trp. Blajeski located 43 individual one-gram packets of cocaine in the suspect's pocket.

The Trooper later learned the suspect had told others that he was planning to capitalize on the recently disbursed Perm Fund and other checks. The Trooper obtained a search warrant for the suspect's residence, which resulted in further drug and weapons charges.

Annual Woodcutting Party:

In the fall of 1999, Troopers received a complaint from then-71-year-old **Stella McAllister**, a resident of Prince of Wales, who indicating a number of her personal

checks had been stolen. The investigation revealed a handyman from Ketchikan had been hired to cut wood for the winter. The man was paid, then completed only about half the job and stole blank checks from Mrs. McAllister before he left the area.

When the troopers realized that the resident had only one month of wood left, they organized a wood cutting party and chopped enough wood to last through the winter. Troopers have made it an annual event since then.

On October 23, 2004, **Sgt. Bernard Chastain, Trps. Jeremy Baum, Tom Lowy, and Clyde Campbell** headed for Happy



What's wrong with this picture? Trp. Clyde Campbell carried a tree...



...while Trp. HervIbarra appears to have carried a stick!

Harbor on Prince of Wales Island. The troopers who have pitched in to help, on their own time, have changed over the years, but the tradition has continued. ■

(A Detachment photos, page 14)



The wood chopping crew: Trps. Jeremy Baum, Tom Lowy, and Clyde Campbell; and Sgt. Bernard Chastain. Stella McAllister is in the center.

A Detachment, continued from page 13



Congratulations, Trp. Eldridge! Lt. Rodney Dial, Sgt. Lonny Piscoya and Capt. Kurt Ludwig present Trp. Mark Eldridge with his 5-Year pin on October 4th.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS
Greenpeace demonstration in Wrangell August 5. Beneath the Greenpeace Tripods are Trps. Chris Umbs and Glenn Knapp, along with Wrangell PD Chief Doug McCloskey.



Troopers Drop by Day Care Center: Trp. Adam Benson and Trp. Mark Fines made a public appearance at the Busy Bee Day Care on September 4. Also shown here is Trp. Benson's wife, Julie (right), who teaches preschool at the day care center.



The truth comes out about what bears actually do and don't do in the woods.



(At left) RDII John Rymer completes his PT test for the Court Service Officer position in Ketchikan.

(At right) Trp. Mark Fines models equipment used for his Ketchikan Post restroom janitorial duties.

If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you. Winnie the Pooh



B Detachment News

BY LISA BUCHER, AST PALMER

Congratulations to **Trp. Rick Pyles** in serving an eventful 20 years with the Department of Public Safety. **Trp. Pyles** started his career in 1984 for Anchorage AST. He went to Anchorage Judicial Services (J.S.) in 1986. He continued in 1987 to St. Mary's, then moving to State Traffic Enforcement Program in 1990. He went to Palmer AST Patrol in 1995 and is currently serving at Palmer J.S. Congratulations!!



Trp. Rick Pyles received his 20-year award with cake to celebrate.

On the departing front, **Sgt. Rodney Johnson** has relocated to Nome AST and **Sgt. Mark Ridling** has relocated to Soldotna AST. We will miss them both!

We would like to congratulate the new recruits **Trp. Nathan Duce**, **Trp. Dean Whisler**, **Trp. Josh Heinbaugh**, **Trp. Mitchell Lewis**, and **Trp. Kim Sledgister** in becoming part of the family here at B Detachment. Welcome and good luck!

Additions/Subtractions

Inv. Craig Allen, ABI Palmer, has moved into a patrol Sergeant position at B Detachment, Palmer Post in November 2004. He is an 11-year veteran with the Alaska State Troopers and has been assigned to Palmer Post, Glennallen Post, and the Alaska Bureau of Investigations. He is also a Polygraph Examiner and serves on the Tactical Dive Unit and



Capt. Dennis Casanovas (left) presented **Sgt. Mark Ridling** with a plaque of appreciation. He has relocated to Soldotna.



Sgt. Rodney Johnson received a plaque of appreciation from **Capt. Dennis Casanovas**. He has relocated to Nome.

SERT. Congratulations **Craig** and good luck.

Cpl. James Helgoe has been promoted from the Training Academy to the Sergeant position B Detachment, at Talkeetna Post effective December 2004. He began his law enforcement career in 1993 with the Palmer Police Department, and also served with the Seward Police Department until joining the Alaska State Troopers in 1999. He has been assigned to Soldotna Patrol and Soldotna Investi-

gations. He was promoted to Corporal in 2002 and served as a Staff Instructor at the DPS Training Academy in Sitka. **Sgt. Helgoe** will be responsible for enforcement operations and the day-to-day supervision of the Troopers and an Administrative Clerk II at the Talkeetna Post. Congratulations **Sgt. Helgoe** and good luck.

Trp. David Willson joined the Alaska State Troopers in 2001. Upon completion of the Academy he was assigned to Palmer Post and worked in Patrol until 2003. He was then assigned to the newly formed Burglary Suppression Unit. Over the next year he concentrated on investigating property crimes as the only member of the Burglary Suppression Unit. **Trp. Willson** was named the Mat-Su Crime Stopper Officer of the Year for 2003. He has acted as OIC and is trained in Advanced Accident Investigation, Vehicle Theft Investigation, and Insurance Fraud Investigations. **Trp. Willson** was promoted to Corporal and transferred to the Sitka Academy for his new assignment. Congratulations **Dave** and good luck.

Trp. Michelyn Grigg has transferred from B Detachment Talkeetna Post to Anchorage, Alaska Bureau of Investigation. Good luck **Mikey!**

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Lt. Hans Brinke has been transferred from ABADE to B Detachment in Palmer. Welcome and good luck Lt. Brinke!

Trp. Ron Hayes has been transferred from B Detachment Palmer Post to Girdwood AST and will be working the

slopes. He will begin duty there in December. Good luck Ron!

Trp. Michael Wooten has been transferred from B Detachment DUI team to the ABI Wildlife Investigations Unit in Anchorage. Good luck Mike!

Here is your sign!

Just a little reminder to be careful what you get on your personalized license plates. An individual was stopped on July 22, 2004, with his plate saying THINK while his violation was for failure to stop for a stop sign. There was another license plate saying CMYTAG, and his violation was for expired plates. ■

Showdown At The Knik River Bridge

It was a foggy day when a group of motorists met on the northbound lanes of the Glenn Highway on the Knik River Bridge. Around 9 a.m., the cars and trucks started to show up...and stayed there! The investigation revealed 18 vehicles were involved in the collision, which began when the lead vehicle, a pick up truck pulling a trailer, lost control on the ice covered bridge and spun sideways across the road. The other vehicles were unable to stop or avoid the accident and seemingly just kept on coming.

Four individuals involved in the incident were injured and taken to Valley Hospital in Palmer for treatment. Palmer Police Department, Wasilla Police Department and the Anchorage Police Department responded to assist Troopers with the accident, along with ambulance and rescue crews from Palmer and Central Mat-Su Volunteer Departments.

There were also three other accidents in the southbound lanes which occurred in the area while officials worked to clear the original accident.

State Troopers attribute icy conditions and poor visibility due to the fog, as contributing factors to the accident as well as people driving too fast for conditions. The Glenn Highway traffic was interrupted in both directions for approximately an hour and a half. Normal traffic resumed approximately 2 1/2 hours after the incident was reported.

Trp. Ledelle Arntson was responding to the incident and became a participant when his patrol vehicle was hit at least four separate times during the incident. Trp. Arntson was able to assist with traffic control and use his fire extinguisher to control a truck fire. ■



D Detachment News

BY SUSANNE ROGERS, AST FAIRBANKS

Good bye and hello:

Winter is coming, the snow is on the ground and the summer fires are gone. D Detachment has said lots of good-byes in the past few months. **Trp. Teague Widmier** has transferred to Bethel Post while **Trp. Joseph Hazelaar** has gone to Bethel ABADE. **Trp. Tage Toll** went to Glenallen ABWE and **Trp. Pat Nelson** has gone to Ketchikan. **Trp. David Bump** will be in Dillingham in December. We also have **Trp. Ledelle Arnston** and **Trp. Marvin Randall** both retired (Marvin again). Two of our troopers have stayed in D Detachment but moved to the Parks Hwy. **Alan Carvajal** has transferred to Healy and **Rachel Foster** is the new Nenana Trooper.

We're happy to have newly promoted **Lt. Burke Barrick** and his wife, **Bau**, back in Fairbanks from Nome.

D Detachment also welcomed **Sgt. Rick Quinn** and his family back to Fairbanks from Dillingham. **Trooper Recruits Malik Jones, Michael Potter, Jonnathon Stroebele** and **Toma Caldarea** have completed the FTO program.

Kathi Young joined AST in October as an Admin. Clerk II. A new addition to dispatch is **Jessica Lenahan**. Best wishes to Admin. Clerk **Patricia Brown** and **Fred Wagner** who married in Fairbanks on November 6.

Over at Judicial Services, **Julie Johnson** has taken the Admin. Clerk position vacated by **Lucy Keturi** who is the new CSO.

Boys are outnumbering the girls in new arrivals in D Detachment. Recent additions included **Justin Tyler Covey**, weighing in at 8 pounds, 19 and three-quarters inches long, born to **Trp. Jake Covey** and wife **Rachel** of Cantwell on August 16, 2004. He joins big sister **Madyson**.

Trp. Michael Roberts and wife **Mandi** welcomed their first child, **Tyler Richard Roberts** on August 24, 2004. Tyler weighed in at 8 pounds, 13 ounces.

Tim and **Cindy Tuckwood** of Delta are proud new parents of a baby girl, **Skylar Victoria Tuckwood**, born October 25,



Justin Tyler Covey joined the family of **Trp. Jake Covey**, his wife **Rachel**, and big sister **Madyson**.



Tyler Richard Roberts was welcomed by **Trp. Michael Roberts** and his wife **Mandi**. **Tyler** seems destined to "join the force".

2004, at 11:41 p.m. weighing 6 pounds 10 ounces and 20 inches long. **Skylar** joins **Sadie Tuckwood**, 2 years of age to round out the Tuckwood family.

Trp. Brian Ziesel and wife **Lydia** are happy to announce the arrival of **Aaron James Zeizel** who weighed in at 7 pounds, 13 ounces on November 5, 2004, in Fairbanks. **Aaron** joins **Hannah** 16, **Evan** 15, **Emma** 14, **Ian** 9, and **Ryan** 5.

Happy Halloween:

Dispatch in Fairbanks was rather "fowl" on Halloween. Dispatcher **Scott Vinton**, who has recently become a chicken farmer of sorts, wanted to be a chicken for Halloween. Dispatcher **Kitty Lancaster**, displaying one of her many talents, took on the task of designing and sewing up the costume for **Scott**.



Trp. Tim Tuckwood and his wife, **Cindy**, are proud of their daughters. **Sadie Tuckwood** is truly a little trooper when it comes to helping out with her new little sister **Skylar Victoria Tuckwood**.



It's Chicken Man! **Scott Vinton** wanted to be a "chicken farmer" for Halloween. **Kitty Lancaster** designed and created the costume.

Later in the day a bird was seen hanging out in ABWE reading hunting regulations. The rough grouse is none other than **Kitty Lancaster** who made herself the grouse costume.

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Checking up on the grouse hunting laws, is none other than Halloween costumed Kitty Lancaster!

Deltana Fair

BY MAGISTRATE TRACY BLAIS

The Deltana Fair was held August 20 to 22. We had a dunk tank to raise money for our senior class trip to Hawaii. **Trp. Steve Lantz** sat in the tank for 45 minutes on Friday night after his work shift and he brought in over \$300. He came again on Saturday afternoon before his work shift and sat for 2 hours and brought in over \$450. We were selling water and also had a donation can so we can't be certain of the exact total but we are confident that he alone brought us over \$750. That is amaz-

ing!!! We surely appreciated his help and generosity. From my perspective, as a magistrate, a long time community member and a mom, Trp. Lantz went a long way towards fostering a healthy and positive role model for the troopers. There were definitely some folks that paid to officially say they "dunked" a trooper but there were lots more that were just purely impressed with his community spirit and volunteering to help out the kids.

Essentially, by doing this, he becomes a person in the community, not just a blue



Trp. Steve Lantz got soaked for a good cause, helping to raise over \$750 for a senior class trip.

uniform in the community. It will make a difference in how he is treated and, in the long run, how people view the troopers as an organization.

To some extent, even more important, he forged a bond with those young folks who endured the dunk tank with him. They have a great deal of respect for him that can be converted to rapport with a very impressive group of our community. That equals a win-win situation for all of us—the troopers, the kids, and the community. ■

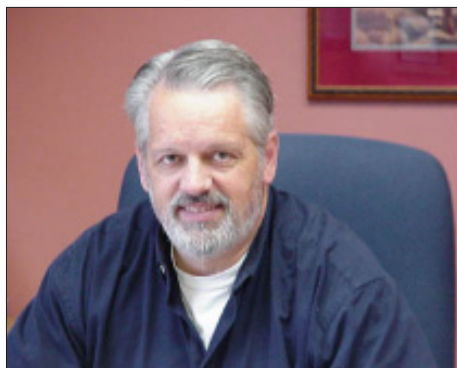
E Detachment News

BY SHAE HOLLANDSWORTH, AST SOLDOTNA

Big news in E Detachment was the retirement of **Capt. Tom Bowman**. Fortunately for us, Capt. Bowman was rehired and is once again at the helm of E Detachment. It seems Capt. Bowman made the most of his lazy days, as is evidenced by this photographic proof of his refusal to shave. Now that he is back at work, his Santa-Claus alter ego is history.

Trp. Ryan Browning and wife **Kimberly** welcomed their new son, **Caleb Eugene**, on October 4, 2004. Congratulations to both of them on a job well done!

Pre-schoolers from Cook Inlet Academy visited Soldotna Post and were thrilled to be in the driver's seat. **Trps. John Groover**



Capt. Tom Bowman

and **Elizabeth Haddad** provided guided tours of the building, but the cars and sirens were most popular attractions.

In a September awards ceremony, **Sgt. Brandon Anderson** received his Advanced Certificate. **Inv. Dane Gilmore** and **Trp. Larry Erickson** received their 10-year pins, and **Janet Palmer** from JS received her 5-year pin.

Trps. Jim Truesdell, Travis Hedlund, Darrel Christensen, John Cyr, and Brent Johnson received special recognition for their efforts in the Memorial Day enforcement around the Anchor Point area. The community was very pleased with the increased patrols and Trooper presence, and many community members sent thank-you letters.

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E Detachment, continued from page 18



Trps. Jim Truesdell, Travis Hedlund, Carrel Christensen, John Cyr, and Brent Johnson received special recognition for their efforts during enforcement during Memorial Day.



Trps. John Groover and Elizabeth Haddad hosted Cook Inlet Academy pre-schoolers for an unforgettable show 'n' tell event.

A big welcome to **Sgt. Mark Ridling**, who joins the Soldotna post after spending three years in Palmer Patrol. We hope Mark and his family love the Soldotna area.

The front counter has a new, yet familiar face—**Chris Hopkins** has joined the clerical staff at the Soldotna Post. Hopkins worked for ABWE in Soldotna for 13 years, so if you run into her at the front counter, don't think you've gone to the wrong building!

The Soldotna Dispatch center welcomes **Oralee Nudson**. Nudson was born and raised here in Alaska, and has a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science

and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. With those credentials, she's perfectly suited to dealing with all of the Dispatch equipment and, er...clients.

Congratulations to **Carly Reimer**, **Lisa Kosto**, and **Jennifer Russell**, our new Dispatch Shift Supervisors. All three have been enthusiastically learning their additional duties and make great supervisors.

Dispatch Shift Supervisor **Lisa Kosto** and Dispatch Supervisor **Tammy Goggia** are in training for their upcoming marathon in Hawaii. In addition to the physical demands, they are also working hard in their fundraising efforts. With the help of **ABI Inv. Cornelius "Moose" Sims**, who do-

nated the use of his house and muscles, they were able to hold a fundraising garage sale. They would also like to thank everyone who donated items for the sale. Kosto and Goggia must raise \$10,000 in order to participate in the race, with the money going towards cancer research. E Detachment is very proud of Lisa and Tammy, and we wish them the best of luck in the December marathon.

NEWSFLASH! Trp. Bill Welch is officially OLD! The Girdwood community came out in force to wish Trp. Welch a happy 50th birthday. On hand were fellow Troopers, the Girdwood Fire Department, and various Girdwood residents. As it was, the big 5-0, well-wishers were advised to keep it mellow and not startle Trp. Welch.



Trp. Bill Welch bravely faced his 50th birthday.

K-9 Nissan took a spin in Girdwood's new Dog Wash machine. Will they ever make one of these for kids?



K-9 Nissan tried out the new doggie wash.

Seth Rupe was found wandering the streets of Homer. During an intense interrogation session, it was discovered that he was looking for his grandmother (but apparently she was trespassed from the Homer area and fled to Fairbanks). As a result, he was confiscated as state property. (E Detachment, continued on page 20)

E Detachment.

continued from page 19

erty and turned over to his dad, **Trp. Jeremy Rupe**.



Seth Rupe set out for a big adventure all on his own.

The Soldotna Evidence room has been transformed from a nightmarish cave to a dream storage space, thanks to upgraded lighting, new paint, and space-saver shelving units. Many people helped in making this difficult project a success. Evidence Custodian **Cathy Clark** would like to acknowledge all the people who helped out with this monumental task. Thanks go out to the Counter Drug Support Program from the National Guard for schlepping upwards of 10,000 evidence items to secure, temporary housing. **Sgt. Larry Ryan** from the National Guard gave the entire evidence room a fresh coat of paint, which lightened the room up considerably. E Detachment Capt. Bowman assisted with shelving, and **Sgt. Dan**



Sgt. Dan Donaldson is cleverly disguised as a cement expert.

Donaldson did concrete work to even out the floor. Thanks, also, to **ABADE** clerk **Earlene Reed** for her assistance. Without all of you, this project could not have been undertaken.

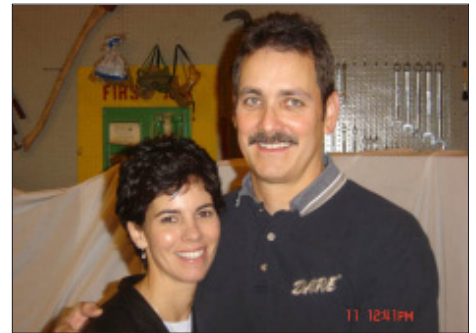
Sgt. Dan Donaldson donates his time and cement expertise to even out the floor of the Soldotna Evidence room.

Is it **Billy Ray Cyrus**? Is it **Dee Snyder**? No—it's our very own **Trp. Jim Johnson**. He was so excited to have hair of any type that he didn't even mind a mullet!



Trp. Jim Johnson makes a fashion statement.

Soldotna Post says goodbye to **Trps. Vic Aye** and **Joey Beaudoin**. Trp. Aye is leaving Soldotna post after many, many years to join Anchorage JS. We'll miss him greatly, and have a feeling that people in our community will be driving a little faster without Aye around. Trp. Beaudoin joins the Bethel post. We hope they know how lucky they are to get such a hard-working, dedicated Trooper! ■



Trp. and Mrs. Vic Aye say "so long" to Soldotna Post.



Trp. Joey Beaudoin and his girlfriend **Courtney** are headed to Bethel.

"There is a rule in sailing where the more maneuverable ship should give way to the less maneuverable craft. I think this is sometimes a good rule to follow in human relations as well."

*Dr. Joyce Brothers
Psychologist*



Can you identify this "one cool dude"? He claims to smoke the same kind of cigars as President Clinton. Look for his identity revealed later in this publication.

Division of Fire Prevention

Alaska Fire Fatalities Fall Below The National Average

The Alaska Division of Fire Prevention is pleased to announce that Alaska fire fatalities fall below the national average for the first time in history. In 2003, the United States averaged 1.3 fire deaths per 100,000 people, Alaska averaged 1.1 fire deaths per 100,000.

This means that Alaskans were less likely to die from fire than other people in the United States. This is an impressive number considering ten years ago Alaskan fire deaths were three times the national average. Please visit the Division of Fire Prevention's website to see more detail on fire fatality statistics. The website can be found at <http://www.dps.state.ak.us/fire/asp/alaskafireloss.asp>

The decline can be attributed to increasing public awareness of fire prevention, increased community fire prevention activities sponsored by local fire departments, improving housing stock, enforcement of life safety codes and increased use of fire safety equipment such as smoke alarms and fire extinguishers.

2003 Alaska Fire Picture at a Glance:

The following information has been submitted by fire departments to the State

Fire Marshal's Office. The primary source of data used is the Alaska National Fire Incident Reporting System (ANFIRS).

IMPORTANT: The data presented in this profile does not represent 100% of the fires that occurred in the state. Rather, they are a sum of the fires reported to the State Fire Marshal's Office from the fire departments participating in ANFIRS.

This information may be used to give a general picture of the fire incidents in the State of Alaska. Without everyone's cooperation the information does not show a factual picture of the fire problem in Alaska.

Fires:

- Fires attended by Alaska fire departments increased from the year 2002 by 4% to 2949.
- Fires in structures were up from the year 2002 by 1% to 752.
- Residential properties accounted for 70% or 529 of all structure fires.

Fire Deaths:

- Civilian fire deaths decreased from the year 2002 by 20% to 7. All 7 civilians died at home. There were no firefighter deaths reported in 2003.

Fire Injuries:

- Civilian fire injuries decreased from the year 2002 by 28% or 38.
- Firefighter injuries decreased from the year 2002 by 15% to 8.
- Residential properties were the site of 20 civilian and 4 firefighter injuries.
- Property Damage
- Property losses decreased from the year 2002 by 12% to \$25,546,038.
- Structure fires caused \$22,399,968 or 88% of all property damage.
- Residential property losses were \$14,009,186 or 63% of all structure property loss.

Intentional Fires:

- Structure fires that were reported as intentional were down from the year 2002 by less than 1% to 82.
- Intentional structure fires accounted for 11% of all structure fires.
- Intentional structure fires accounted for 4% or \$971,350 of all structure property dollar loss.
- Intentional fires resulted in 1 civilian fatality.
- Intentional vehicle fires increased by 5% from the year 2002; resulting in \$2,719,190 in mobile property damage for 2003. ■

Director's Office

We welcomed **William "Bill" Bettac** as the new Assistant State Fire Marshal in October. Mr. Bettac started a distinguished career in Fire Protection/Prevention in February 1971 with the United States Air Force. After serving our country for 4 years as a military firefighter, he started a long civil service career with the Air Force.

He retired from federal service in December 2001, after 29 years of active fire service around the world. His last federal position started in 1991 as the Assistant Fire Chief of the Elmendorf Air Force Base Fire Department where he immediately fell in love with all aspects of Alaska. Following his retirement, he joined the State of Alaska, Division of Homeland Security



Bill Bettac is the new Assistant State Fire Marshal.

and Emergency Management team and worked as State Disaster Recovery Manager and a the Homeland Security Exercise and Intelligence Officer.

New Code Adopted:

Title 13 of the Alaska Administrative Code, Chapters 50 through 55, was adopted and amended to the 2003 International Building, Fire, and Mechanical

(**Director**, continued on page 22)

Director, continued from page 21

Codes on August 27, 2004. Projects submitted beyond that date is reviewed under the new code.

Life Safety and Inspection Bureau:

Life Safety and Inspection Bureau (LSIB) is pleased that **Aaron Kershner** joined the Bureau as the new Administrative Clerk III. Kershner is originally from Maine, completed college in California, then traveled the world with the United States Air Force. He was a Firefighter/EMT for 15 years. He is married to **Melanie** and they have three children **Hailey, Tessa, and Zachary.**

Congratulations to Deputy Fire Marshal I **John Bond** for passing the Commercial Mechanical Inspector certification exam.

Training was the theme for this quarter

Deputy Fire Marshal II **Carol Olson** attended the Annual Alaska State Firefighters Association and Alaska Fire Chiefs Association Joint Conference in Sitka to teach Fire Investigation. The course was well attended.



Deputy Fire Marshal II Carol Olson

Deputy Fire Marshal I **Dan Jones** taught the Fire Investigation for First Responders to students at the Rural Basic Firefighter course in Kenai. The main objective of the course was to help first responders recognize suspicious fires.



Aaron Kershner joined the Life Safety and Inspection Bureau.

Deputy Fire Marshal II Carol Olson attended a conference for training I Board and Care Facilities in Sacramento, California.

Two Deputy Fire Marshals attended the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland for training. DFM I **Robert Plumb** completed a course in Structures and Systems and DMF I Dan Jones completed a course in Fire Inspection Principals.

Deputy Fire Marshal I **Steve "Rusty" Belanger** completed a Basic Life Safety for Health Care Facilities course. He also completed Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist training in Sitka.

The Division sponsored a course on Hood and Duct Suppression Systems in Anchorage. The entire staff of LSIB and PRB attended the course.

Deputy Fire Marshal I **Tom Depeter** investigated a fire death in Salcha. A 31-year-old male died in a trailer.

Deputy Fire Marshal I John Bond and Deputy Fire Marshal I Steve "Rusty" Belanger traveled to Nikiski to investigate a fire death caused by misuse of a wood

stove. This is the twelfth fire death this year.

Plan Review Bureau

The Plan Review Bureau worked on several large projects this quarter.

Plans Examiner **Kayle Lightkeeper** is working on the new school in King Cove. The school will be built on a beautiful 5-acre parcel and the school itself will span a creek on the property.

The section over the creek will be built on pilings to permit viewing of the creek from above. An observation platform is also planned for the rear area of the building. School designs are becoming more aesthetically pleasing and incorporate more elements of the environment.

Plans Examiner **Dave Aden** is completing the review of the new Valley Hospital. The PRB is working very closely with the contractors to ensure a safe design that will survive Alaskan weather conditions.

Plans Examiner Kayle Lightkeeper attended the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist course in Sitka to assist with the course. ■

Time Clock

Every . . .

- 1 minute fire caused \$78.00 in damage
- 12 minutes a fire department responded to a call

- 18 minutes a fire department responded to a rescue call
- 2 hours a fire department responded to a good intent call
- 2 hours a fire department responded to a false call
- 4 hours a fire department responded to a service call
- 5 hours a fire department responded to a hazardous call
- 6 hours a fire department responded to a structure fire
- 12 hours a fire department responded to a vehicle fire
- 16 hours a fire department responded to a residential fire. ■

Training and Education Bureau

Fire Service Training

Fire Service Training coordinated a Rural Basic Firefighter Class in Kenai. 14 Students from rural parts of the state completed sixty-four hours of intense fire prevention and firefighting training. This class was funded under the AST COPS grant and was conducted with the assistance of PRISM.

Accredited Departments

Five new departments received accreditation approval during the past 12 months. At the FFI level they were: Haines, Nome, North Slope Borough, and Tri-Valley; at the FFII level they were Ketchikan, University of Alaska ESP program, and Anchorage Airport. Final accreditation testing will be held in Wrangell in early in 2005. This now brings the total of accredited departments to 25 at the FFI level and 9 at the FFII level. The FEMA fire grants have assisted a number of these communities in finalizing their accreditation. FST also conducted audits in 5 departments during the past year.

Fire Service Training provided training and logistical assistance during the 2004 Annual Alaska State Firefighters Association and Alaska Fire Chief's Association Joint Conference in Sitka.

Public Education Office

Public Fire Educator of the Year Awarded

Ketchikan Fire Department Assistant Chief **Jim Hill** was recognized as Alaska's Public Fire Educator of the Year, by the Alaska Division of Fire Prevention at the 2004 Alaska State Firefighters Association and Alaska Fire Chiefs Association Joint Annual Conference in Sitka, Alaska, October 1, 2004.



Assistant Chief Jim Hill received his award from Jodie Hettrick.

Assistant Chief Hill was nominated for his work coordinating fire prevention education efforts for the Ketchikan area. Assistant Chief Hill personally conducted over 200 hours of public education presentations in area schools, implemented a smoke alarm installation program and assisted with the development of a boat fire safety program.

Ketchikan Fire Chief **Richard Leipfert** wrote "The City of Ketchikan due to its marine environment has a significant number of boat fires annually. Assistant Chief Hill has taken it upon himself to educate the boat owners of the area to boat fire safety. Through personal appearances at the Ketchikan Yacht Club and through a continued barrage of information to the boating community, Asst Chief Hill has included boating fire safety in the Ketchikan Fire Departments education program. These efforts have helped individuals within the live aboard boat community to understand the significant hazards prevalent in living on marine vessels."

Alaska Home Fire Safety Improvement Project

In October we welcomed Fire Training Specialist **Mahlon Greene**. He is managing the Alaska Home Fire Safety Improvement Project. Mr. Greene has over fifteen years fire service experience with the Central

Mat-Su Fire Department. He will coordinate all activities for the project.

North Tongass Volunteer Fire Department recorded the first save for the Alaska Home Fire Safety Improvement Project. On November 1, **Firefighter Andy Tighe** provided a home fire safety inspection for a family and installed a smoke alarm, carbon monoxide detector, 5 pound fire extinguisher, fire escape ladder, bath temperature card, kitchen timer, and 2 fire safe surge protectors. He also gave the family a short course on fire prevention and safety. On November 4, one of the children knocked a lamp over onto some bedding. The child did not notice that the lamp had fallen and left the room. A few minutes later the smoke alarm sounded and the family of the mother, six children and an elder, evacuated the building while their father went to investigate. He found a small fire and used the new fire extinguisher to extinguish the fire. They called 911 and the fire was completely out when the fire department arrived. The only damage was to the bedding. If this fire would have happened before November 1, it could have cost the family dearly. The North Tongass VFD replaced the used extinguisher.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors - Mandated

Effective January 1, 2005, Carbon Monoxide Detectors will be required in all dwelling units that:

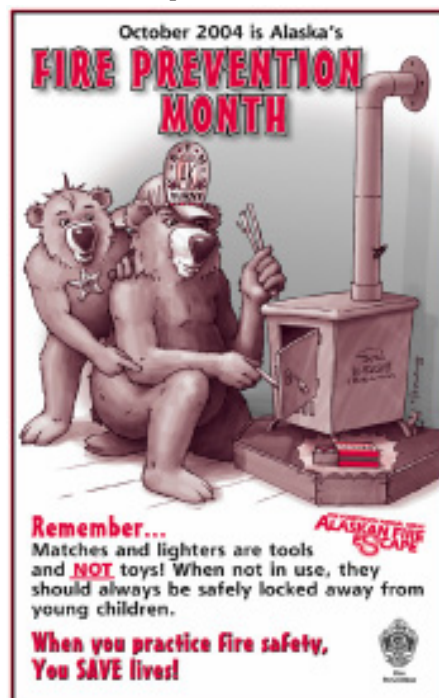
- have an attached garage or carport
- have a fueled appliance that produces by-products of combustion
- are adjacent to a parking area

Carbon Monoxide Detectors shall have an alarm and shall be installed and maintained according to manufacturer's instructions.

To help avoid carbon monoxide poisoning:

- maintain adequate ventilation to the appliance
- maintain appliances and service regularly
- do not allow vehicles to idle next to an opening, such as a door or window

The landlord shall provide smoke and carbon monoxide detection devices. It is the responsibility of the tenant to maintain these devices. (AS 18.70.095) ■



Holiday Fire Safety

The Alaska State Fire Marshal's Office offers safety tips for the holiday season. The holiday season is the worst time of year to suffer an injury. Take a few minutes to ensure you are celebrating safely.

Fire Safety:

- Keep your holiday decorations away from all heat sources.
- Ensure that your fire place chimney is clean and well maintained.
- Remember – Space Heaters Need Space – Make sure that all combustibles are at least three feet away from all heat sources.
- Always check for smoldering cigarettes after entertaining guests.
- Provide deep ashtrays or ask guests to smoke outside.
- Store all matches and lighters in a secure area out children's reach and site.

Ladder Safety:

- Before using a ladder outdoors, choose a location that is well away from all power lines. Contact with live wires can be fatal.
- Place the ladder on level ground and open it completely, making sure all locks are engaged.
- Stand at or below the highest safe standing level on a ladder. For a steplad-

der, the safe standing level is the second rung from the top, and for an extension ladder, it's the fourth rung from the top.

- Always face the ladder when climbing and wear slip-resistant shoes, such as those with rubber soles.

Candle Safety:

- Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens.
- Keep candles at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including other decorations and wrapping paper.
- Always use stable, nonflammable candle holders.
- Place candles where they will not be knocked down or blown over and out of reach of pets and young children.
- Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish all candles before going to sleep or leaving the room.
- Do not decorate children's rooms with candles.
- Always keep burning candles up high, out of the reach of children.
- If you have children in your home, store candles, matches and lighters out of their sight and reach.

Decorative Light Safety:

- Inspect holiday lights before decorating. Replace any that are frayed or otherwise damaged. Pay special attention to lights or decorations that may have been damaged from winter weather conditions.
- Check for red or green UL marks on all light strings. The green holographic UL Mark means the light strings should be used only indoors. The red holographic UL Mark indicates the light strings can be used both inside and out — and can withstand conditions related to outdoor use.
- Follow manufacturer's guidelines for stringing light sets together. As a general rule, Underwriters Laboratories (UL) recommends using no more than three standard-size sets of lights together.
- Do not overload extension cords or electrical receptacles.
- Unplug all holiday lights when you go to sleep or leave home.
- Automatic lighting timers can be used to ensure that lights are not left on. These are available for both indoor and outdoor applications.
- If you have children in your home, use safety caps on all electrical receptacles. ■

International Fire Conference

St. Petersburg, Russia

BY GARY POWELL, STATE FIRE MARSHAL

The last week of October, I had the incredible experience of attending the International Fire Conference in St. Petersburg, Russia. The trip was sponsored by the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center – NW (NLECTC). Our group of eight comprised fire and law enforcement personnel individuals from across the U.S., with five coming from Alaska. My presentation at the Conference was on the Project Code Red. There was much interest in the concept, and I was interviewed on Russian TV. Some of the other countries presenting were Russia, Latvia, Netherlands, Britain, and France.

After the Conference, we were treated to a full day tour of a St. Petersburg fire station and the Institute of Fire.

The following day, we enjoyed the same gracious treatment at the St. Petersburg Police Academy – a full four-year program with 20,000 students on campus. All police officers are required to attend a minimum of four years, with many doing six or more and obtaining advanced degrees. All instructors at both academies were Ph.D.s., even the pump apparatus instructor.

My overall impression of public safety in Russia is that they are highly educated and well trained, but lack the sophisticated equipment we enjoy in the U.S. This was especially true in the fire service. They were very proud to put on a demonstration for us using a pompier ladder, something that has been banned in most

(Conference, continued on page 25)



A Russian firefighter demonstrates scaling a building with the use of a pompier ladder.

Conference,

continued from page 24

of the U.S. for over 30 years. Their equipment is old and patched together, and few of the buildings are equipped with automatic suppression systems.

One of the highlights of the Police Academy visit was the demonstration of the various Russian weapons and the opportunity to shoot at their firing range. To the best of my knowledge, the pistol we shot with was a Makarov 9 mm, which felt fairly comfortable after my brief three-minute introduction. I did manage to tie our Russian host, **General Silkin**, and one of the other US members for the best shot of the day. It appeared that the Russians employ a different style of shooting (one-handed), and shoot longer distance (appeared to be 25 meters with handgun) than our law enforcement agencies.

The experience proved to be culturally and professionally enlightening. ■



U.S. visitors were given a demonstration of Russian weapons, including this tactical piece.



Director Powell with General Silkin, one of the Department Heads at the Russian Police Academy. Director Powell, General Silkin and Bruce Richter (retired APD) subsequently tied for best shot.



A Russian fire engine at the St. Petersburg Fire Institute.

Division of Statewide Services

We Want Your Palms

BY DALE BIVINS, ALASKA STATE CRIME LABORATORY

The Alaska State Crime Laboratory has a new tool for reading palms. Now, don't get excited and think the laboratory can predict how many kids you're going to have or your future spouse's hair color and astrological sign. This is a different kind of palmistry.

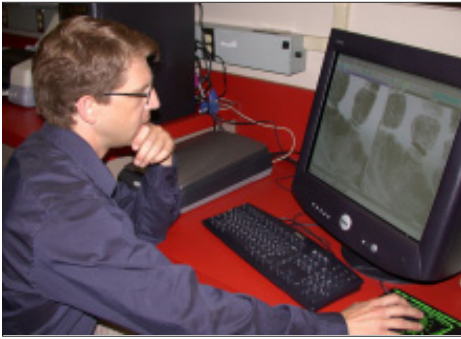
The Crime Laboratory has purchased a SPEX Forensics palm print identification

system. It is a stand-alone desktop system that works similarly to the Western Identification Network/Alaska Automated Fingerprint Identification System (WIN/AAFIS). Instead of searching and matching finger impressions, the new system will search and match palm impressions. We have decided to name the system the Alaska Palm Identification System or

APIS. We have also decided to name ourselves the Masters of the Obvious.

The system can store palm impressions from a total of twenty thousand individuals. The initial database consists of palm impressions from approximately six thousand individuals. Two thousand of the individuals entered were on file at the
(Palms, continued on page 26)

Palms, continued from page 25



Dale Bivins works with the new SPEX Forensics palm print identification system.

Alaska State Crime Laboratory, and the Anchorage Police Department submitted four thousand individuals from their palm print files. The database is a collaborative effort, and both agencies will continue to add palm prints in the future and search the database.

Previously, if there was a latent palm developed but no suspect, the case was put on hold until a suspect was developed and known palm standards were submitted.

With this new system, fingerprint examiners can search the database and develop

leads for investigators. The system has already had two hits that have resulted in two identifications. One was from a vehicle theft case, and the other was from a cold case homicide.

The larger the known palm database, the better the chances are for getting a match and making an identification. It also helps if the palm print ridge detail is recorded clearly and completely. Contact **Dale Bivins** at the Alaska State Crime Laboratory for information on how to properly record and document inked palm impressions. ■

Criminalist Debra Gillis Completed Firearms Training

BY JOHN GIACALONE

On March 5, 2004, **Debra Gillis**, a Criminalist at the State Crime Detection Laboratory, graduated from the National Firearms Examiner Academy (NFEA) in Ammendale, Maryland. The accomplishment was recently recognized by a letter from ATF Agent **Bradley Earman**, which translated into a Certificate of Excellence presented by **David Schade** on November 8, 2004.

The NFEA is designed to provide firearm and toolmark-related training to federal, state, and local apprentice/entry level firearm and toolmark examiners. This program consists of four phases and encompasses a one-year time period. A total of 14 students from across the country were accepted into and graduated from the 5th NFEA class of 2003.

Phase I of the Academy involves approximately four months of in-house assignments. This "Pre-Course" phase includes written administrative/protocol rules and regulations as they pertain to each examiner's individual laboratory; research papers in the fields of black powder, evolution of early firearms and modern ammunition development; and the history, principles, equipment and current developments in the field of Firearms Identification.

Phase II of the Academy was held at the ATF Forensic Science Laboratory – Washington, located in the Washington, DC suburb of Ammendale for fifteen consecutive weeks. The "Hands-On" phase



The National Firearms Examiner Academy graduation. (Debra Gillis is second from the right front row.)

is designed to be in classroom and laboratory settings. Students will participate in group and individual activities, practical exercises, written examinations, tours of ammunition, firearm and tool manufacturers, and local museums.

Phase III involves a three-month time frame at the Students' individual laboratories and consists of completing a pre-approved research project and four practical exercises intended for moot court testimonies for Phase IV.

The final segment, Phase IV, consists of a two-week "Follow-Up" program held in the Washington, DC area. This module involves research project presentation, and moot court training and testimony in a courtroom setting. ■



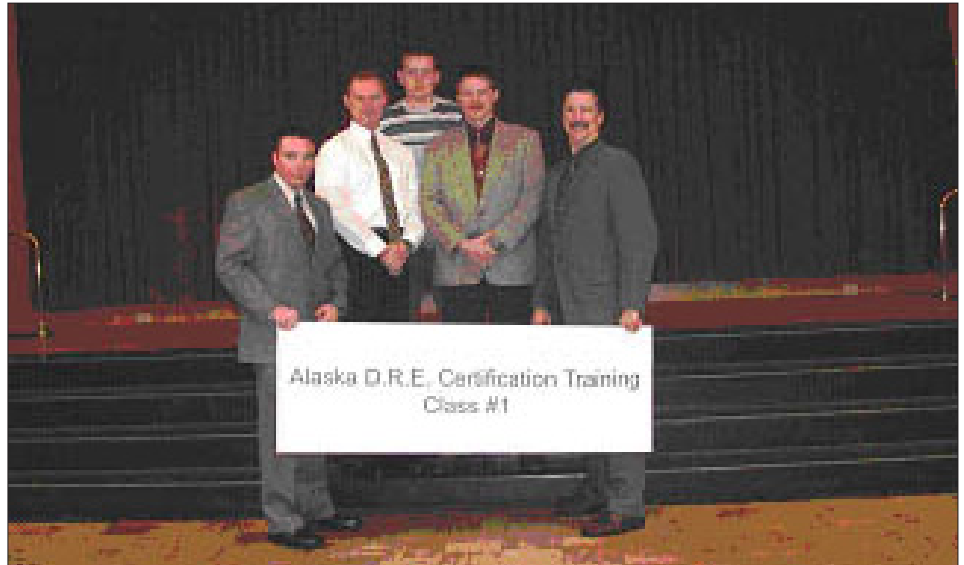
Marie Schneider was an administrative clerk with the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory and has transferred to the State Department of Fish and Game's Genetics Laboratory. Her co-workers will miss her talents and knowledge.

Alaska's First Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) School

By JEANNE SWARTZ, STATE DRE COORDINATOR

The Alaska Drug Evaluation and Classification/Drug Recognition Expert (DEC/DRE) program was first accepted in April 2004, and has grown impressively in only six months. Alaska currently has four fully certified DRE officers and on November 6, 2004, in Anchorage, fifteen new Alaska DRE officers finished the classroom portion of their DRE training and much of the Field Evaluation training. These new DREs include several AST officers including **Sgt. Barry Wilson**, of AST/Soldotna, **Trp. Chris Umbs** of AST/Juneau, and **Trp. Andrew Ballesteros** of AST/Fairbanks. **Trps. David Herrell** and **Troy Shuey** also completed the DRE training and will join **Sgt. Rick Terry**, previously certified as a DRE, on the DUI enforcement team based in Palmer. Troopers Shuey and Herrell did not wait long to put their newfound knowledge into practice.

On the way back to Palmer after a long night performing training evaluations at the Anchorage jail, these Troopers contacted a suspected impaired driver and proceeded to perform their first "real-life" evaluation, with assistance from one of the out-of-state instructors. All of the new DREs will finish their Field Evaluation training and Final Knowledge Exams later



New AST DREs: (From left) Trp. David Herrell, Palmer; Trp. Chris Umbs, Juneau; Trp. Andrew Ballesteros, Fairbanks; Trp. Troy Shuey, Palmer; and Sgt. Barry Wilson, Soldotna

this year and take their places as fully-fledged Alaska DREs in early 2005.

The Alaska DRE program will continue to grow until we have at least twenty-five DREs statewide. So far, Sgt. Terry and one Anchorage Police Department DRE officer have performed over thirty DRE evaluations between them in four months, so it is clear that this program is workable and greatly needed in Alaska. The pro-

gram owes a debt of gratitude to **Mr. Chuck Hayes** and **Mr. Ernie Floegel** of IACP, who have patiently nurtured the goal of an Alaskan DRE program for a decade. Other thank-yous are owed **Colonel Julia Grimes**, for her encouragement and support, and to **Ms. Mary Rodman-Lopez**, formerly of the Alaska Highway Safety Office, for her integrity, determination, and spirit. ■

In Other News:



Mystery solved! The "cool dude" on page 20 has taken on a new look. Trp. Dave Tugmon is now a "Mr. Clean" look-alike and patrolling the area around Kotzebue Post.



DPS Shares The Loss Of A Brother

Anchorage Police Officer Timothy Lott, died November 6, 2004, at Providence Alaska Medical Center after a lengthy battle with mesothelioma cancer.

Mr. Lott was born December 31, 1956, in Biloxi, Mississippi, to **Olen "Don" and Helen Lott**. He moved with his parents and sister to Alaska in 1958. In 1976, he graduated from Dimond High School, where he was a popular student and excelled in sports, lettering in cross-country running, track and field, and wrestling. He was a pilot and avid outdoorsman throughout his life and was at his happiest when living the Alaska experience.

"He loved practical jokes and was known for his quick wit," his family said. "He was a generous friend to many and valued the company of his family."

He was the youngest officer to enter the Anchorage Police Department's Academy at the age of 21. Officer Lott became an APD patrol officer and later a senior patrol officer, assigned to patrol, traffic, and warrants.

He worked as a traffic officer on the Crisis Intervention Response Team, an instructor at the academy, a K-9 officer, and a warrants officer. He received numerous awards and recognitions for excellent ser-

vice. He competed in the Police Olympics in Sydney, Australia, and won many gold medals. He always had a dream of returning to Australia, having made many friends during his visit. **Mayor Mark Begich** awarded him with a 25-year service medal in 2004. His family said, "Tim truly treasured his years with the Anchorage Police Department. They were his second family."

Memorial donations may be made to **Sandy Lott**, 170 W. Klatt Road, Anchorage, Alaska, 99515. Funds will go toward a scholarship fund for their son, **Donald Timothy Lott**. ■

Mongolia- An Emerging Democracy

BY DENISE S. HUDSON

When my husband, **AST Capt. David R. Hudson**, was activated last year full-time with the Alaska Army National Guard, we were not sure what all his tour of duty would entail. He was changing one uniform for another, and his job as a "peace officer" was temporarily changing to that of a "peace keeper" and soldier. We also knew changes for our family were imminent and that this experience would bring new opportunities. It was shortly thereafter, that he was selected to work on a joint project between the Alaska National Guard and the Mongolian Government and Army. I was fortunate enough to be able to accompany him during his second deployment to this fascinating country.

Mongolia's land mass is roughly the size of Alaska's, but their population is approximately five times that of our state. Although land-locked, the topography is diverse, ranging from the gentle steppe (similar to our tundra), to the mountains in the north and the Gobi desert in the south. The vast majority of Mongolians are a nomadic people, traveling with their herds of sheep, goats, horses, bovines, and camels. They are warm, friendly and open individuals, who have a long history that is steeped in their search for independence and the survival of their culture. Ninety-eight percent of Mongolians are Buddhist, and the evidence of their beliefs

and religion are everywhere and incorporated in their daily lives.

In 1911, communism embraced Mongolia, and ten years later it was the 16th unofficial Soviet Republic. Communism reigned until 1990, when the Mongolian people pulled down Stalin's statue in front of the State Library, and relieved themselves from the shackles of Russia. In 1996, Mongolians ousted the longest-ruling communist party in the world and elected the Democratic Coalition to Parliament. Like many countries that leave communist rule, they leave behind the infrastructure of government and struggle to restructure. The winds of change are everywhere in Mongolia as it establishes a new government, an economic base, and services. With any rebirthing of a country, guidance and assistance from other countries is often required. David, his soldiers, and other members of the Alaska National Guard are providing such assistance through information sharing and training.

One of the economic expansions for Mongolia is tourism. Albeit, traveling to and within Mongolia is not for the less hardy of travelers, the experience is rewarding and memorable. With the exception of some of the more populated areas/cities, such as the capital, UlaanBaatar, the majority of the country is

wide open, remote, and reachable only by four wheel drive, walking, camel, or horseback. Visitors to Mongolia cannot help being touched by the richness of the county's beauty, culture and traditions. However, visitors are also quickly humbled by the recognition that Mongolian's survive daily without the services and materialistic items that we westerners rely upon.

Because of extreme winter weather conditions and the migration of rural dwellers to the cities, Mongolia is experiencing pedestrian and motor vehicle problems. UlaanBaatar is a city that only a few short years ago had only six or so motor vehicles. It now is the home to thousands of vehicles, but there is little traffic infrastructure or management. Visitors soon discover that pedestrian crosswalks are virtually nonexistent, and there is no such thing as pedestrian right away. Every winter in Mongolia hundreds of children are run over by motor vehicles. Some of the incidents can be attributed to rural children's lack of understanding about motor vehicles and how to safely cross traffic. But most are due to the drivers' inability to see the children during winter conditions and darkness. While in Mongolia, David and I spoke with local law enforcement officers and management, (Mongolia, continued on page 29)

Mongolia, continued from page 28

and told them about the Safety Bear reflector program that FOAST has been involved with. The Mongolians that we met with were very interested in the Safety Bear reflector program and would like to explore ways in which they can implement a similar program. However, unfortunately

as with any country that is undergoing massive transition and has no established economic base there is little or no financial support available for a comparable program. David and I are not however deterred, and are going to explore ways in which we can assist the Mongolians implement a Safety Bear reflector and child safety program. If anyone in the law en-

forcement community is interested in working on such a program, or would like to know more about Mongolian, please feel free to contact us.

As David's tour of duty with the Army was recently extended, he will continue on active duty, and I personally hope that one of his missions will lead us back to Mongolia. ■

Merry Christmas Officer ©

BY KEITH J. BETTINGER

After so many years of working Christmas and waiting to get the seniority to have the holiday off with his family, Bob Thomaston finally had it. Now there was a new wrinkle. He had the seniority, but he no longer lived at home with his wife and kids. Like so many cops, the job and its many stresses had taken their toll. Now he not only had the seniority, but this year Christmas Eve and Christmas Day fell as his regular days off, now that he didn't need them.

Now he not only had the seniority, but this year Christmas Eve and Christmas Day fell as his regular days off, now that he didn't need them.

For so many Christmases, Bob would rush home from work after a midnight and watch his son Billy and daughter Debbie, open their presents. If he was working days, he would get the kids up early so he could watch them open their packages before he rushed out to relieve the officer on midnights, so that officer could get home to his family. He would always try to sneak home for a while to watch the kids play with their new toys. When he worked afternoons on Christmas, he would be happy for the respite from the bickering that was going on by four in the afternoon over who had what toy, and who wouldn't give the other one a chance to play with something.

He always looked forward to coming home around midnight after the kids were in bed, and spending the rest of the

evening cuddling up with his wife in front of the fireplace with the stereo playing Christmas carols and the room being lit only by the lights on the Christmas tree.

Now it was a thing of the past. The divorce was finalized this past June, just as school got out. After all, you have to be civilized for the children's sake. He moved out of the house before the month was over. He got a small basement apartment that he could afford. It was nice and comfortable, but a world apart from his own home of which he no longer had custody. He was just thankful that one of the cops at the stationhouse introduced him to an elderly couple (the cop's parents) who were looking to rent out the apartment to help cover the differences between pensions and taxes. It was big enough for the kids to come and stay over when he had his visitation. He had to say, at least with everything else that happened, his ex-wife Suzanne was generous with the visitation. The kids could stay with him when he was on his days off. She didn't hold him to a tight court ordered timetable.

That's what made this so difficult for him. It was their first Christmas apart as a family. He was supposed to have the kids from six pm Christmas Eve night to six pm Christmas night. He received a call from Suzanne a couple weeks before. Her new "friend", Jim, owned a condo outside Disneyworld, and he invited her and the kids to spend the holidays with him. She went on to tell Bob what a good time the kids would be having and that it was a trip of a lifetime for them. He started to protest, but was quickly met with the response of, "I've never held you to set days and times, why are you giving me

such a hard time? Would you like it if I stuck to the words of the court visitation, instead of when it was convenient for you?"

Bob knew if he argued he'd lose in the long run, so he relented. He knew it wouldn't be a pleasant Christmas for anyone if the kids were in the middle of a holiday family dispute. Why not let them go to Florida. It would be a long time before he would be able to take them on a vacation like that. So Bob relented.

After 16 years on the job, where did Bob find himself at three thirty in the afternoon? In the locker room, getting ready for a four to twelve shift.

Now it was Christmas Eve. After 16 years on the job, where did Bob find himself at three thirty in the afternoon? In the locker room, getting ready for a four to twelve shift. It wasn't his regular shift, but an overtime shift. Many of the officers with families wanted time off to be home for the holiday. The tour sergeant knew the situation Bob was in, since he had been there himself. He figured Bob could use some OT to cover expenses and offered him the shift on overtime. Bob figured with the kids away, he might as well work and let someone else enjoy the holiday.

At roll call, assignments for the shift were given out. Bob received his, Holiday Patrol. Besides making sure the last (Merry Christmas, continued on page 30)

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minute shoppers were safe, and the store owners were able to close without someone helping themselves to the holiday profits, he was assigned a seven thirty pm church crossing at the local community church.

"Great," Bob thought, "I get to stand in the middle of the street, ankle deep in snow and slush, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas on their way to church. If I'm lucky I'll thaw out just in time to get out and freeze some more while I cross them on their way home."

Just before seven thirty Bob pulled up in front of the church. It was set up for one of the most holy Christian holidays. There was a large Nativity set on the front lawn with a ceramic baby in the manger. The scene was set upon straw, with the snow coming up to meet it. Bob wondered, was it this cold at Bethlehem? The large pine trees in front of the church were decked out with hundreds of multicolored lights. There were 2 large evergreen wreaths on the front doors of the church, and its bells were pealing Christmas Carols. Bob parked the car about fifty feet from the front of the church out of the way of the pedestrians. He got out and turned on the overhead spotlight on the telephone pole that lit up the crosswalks. He then put on his white gloves and took his flashlight, and started directing traffic and crossing the churchgoers.

Just as he thought, he was greeted with salutations of "Merry Christmas, Officer" and from those that knew him, "Merry Christmas, Bob".

While he was rubbing his hands together and stamping his feet, he was surprised by a knock on the passenger side window.

Bob returned all the greetings with a smile on his face and an ache in his heart. When the final worshipper was in church, he went back to the police car and sat down. He turned it on and pushed the heat up all the way trying to get warm. While he was rubbing his hands together and stamping his feet, he was surprised

by a knock on the passenger side window. Standing there was one of the alter boys in his black and white tunic. Bob lowered the window, and asked, "Can I help you young man?"

The alter boy, rubbing his hands together against the cold said, "Pastor Pearsall appreciates your being here tonight. He thought you might like to join us. He has a quiet spot set up for you with some hot coffee and cake. He figured you could use some warming up to go with the spirit of the holiday."

Bob sat in a small room where the choir got ready before services off to the side of the church. He listened to the Christmas story and heard the carols as he sipped his coffee and had some homemade raisin cake. As the service was drawing to a close, Bob was starting to get dressed again. Just as he was finishing getting dressed, he heard the pastor in his closing prayers ask the congregation to join him in asking the Lord's blessings and to personally thank all those people who are working tonight to be sure we are safe and healthy, namely the police, the firefighters, the ambulance crews and all the people working in the hospitals. This gave Bob a chill as he heard everyone say "Amen" in unison. First time in a long time someone thanked him for doing his job, and now it was a church full.

Bob was out at his crossing when the doors of the church opened. The parishioners exited the church and crossed the street and all called out "Merry Christmas and Thank you." It didn't seem so cold this time. Bob was flushed with a warm feeling. It was a long time since he felt someone appreciated him for doing the job.

After Bob finished the church crossing he got back in his police car and was about to leave. He figured maybe he would see if he could pick up something to eat for everyone in the stationhouse. As he was about to pull away, he saw an elderly woman standing out in front of the church all alone. He got back out of the patrol car and walked over and asked, "Is anything wrong, Ma'am?"

She looked at him and said, "I was supposed to meet my friend after church. She

was going to take me to the senior citizen center. There's a whole bunch of us who are alone and we get together each Christmas Eve at the center so we have one another to share the holiday with."

Bob, took her arm, and said "Why don't you let me give you a ride in the police car. I'm sure your friend is probably there already."

Bob helped her into the car and drove her to the center. It was all decked out in festive lights. The woman saw her friend's car in the parking lot, and was relieved to see that everything was okay. As Bob was dropping her off, she thanked him and asked, "Do you have some place to go, or would you like to come in and join us and have a cup of coffee?"

Bob looked at her and said, "For the first time in many years, I don't have anyplace to go. I'd love to come in and have a cup of coffee with you and your friends."

When Bob got into the center, there was a bunch of senior citizens around the Christmas tree and the piano singing carols. He was welcomed, and introduced himself. He called the stationhouse from within the center and told the Sergeant where he was and asked if anything was going on. The Sergeant told him no, just keep the portable radio handy and they would call him if they needed him.

"For the first time in many years, I don't have anyplace to go..."

Bob was having a cup of coffee and enjoying the carols being sung. Suddenly a couple of the seniors called the others around the Christmas tree. The woman that Bob had given the ride to, started handing out presents to all of the people that were there. Bob quietly moved into the background and was enjoying the scene when his new found friend came up and handed him a brightly wrapped package, and said, "Merry Christmas, Bob."

Bob, was taken back. He stammered as he said, "I, I can't take this, I'm not part of (Merry Christmas, continued on page 31)

Merry Christmas, continued from page 30

the group. Besides, I don't have anything to share with you."

She looked at him and said, "This is our gift to you. We have quite a few gifts to give out. They're small gifts, so everyone who is alone has something, and you look like you could use some friends this Christmas."

Bob was fighting back some tears as he thanked her. He opened the present and found a tin of homemade Christmas cookies. Christmas cookies like his mother used to make, and cookies like his wife and kids made each year for Christmas. Cookies like the ones he didn't expect to have this year.

The spirit of the holiday season was in him. He thanked every one of them for allowing him to join in.

He went around the room and shook hands and kissed his new friends. They all wished him a Merry Christmas. They were singing Christmas Carols and he joined in. The spirit of the holiday season was in him. He thanked every one of them for allowing him to join in. He asked when the party was breaking up, and found out they would be closing up for the evening at around midnight. He told them he was going to go back to the stationhouse and share the cookies with his friends who were working, and promised to be back by midnight to make sure everyone got out safely. Before he left, they told him he was invited back when the center opened in the morning for Christmas breakfast, and in the afternoon the seniors would be delivering Christmas dinner to the members who were now shut-ins before they had their own Christmas dinner at the center.

Bob went back to the stationhouse and shared his gift with his friends and told them about his experience. The other cops hadn't seen Bob so alive in quite a while. As the end of the shift rolled around, some of Bob's coworkers went back to the center with him to make sure

everyone who needed a ride got one and arrived home safely.

Christmas morning Bob was up early. He wanted to go back to the center, but didn't want to go empty handed. He didn't have too much tucked away for emergencies. But, he took the fifty dollar bill he had hidden away and went to his friend Fred's home. Fred owned a wholesale nursery and lived on the property. Bob went up and rang the bell at 8 in the morning.

One of Fred's kids opened the door and said "Dad someone's here."

Fred came to the door and Bob and Fred exchanged Christmas greetings.

Fred said "I haven't seen you in a while Bob. How are things going?"

"Well it's lonely living alone. I didn't come around to buy my usual stock for planting since I don't live at home anymore. Not much sense in making it look better for someone else. I didn't come to complain, but I do need some help. I met some new friends last night, senior citizens at the senior center. They made me a part of their holiday and treated me like a long lost son. I'd like to return the favor. Do you have anything handy? A bunch of small plants maybe, about fifty dollars worth. I'm sorry to bother you on Christmas, Fred, but I can't go back empty handed."

Fred smiled and said, "There's one thing wrong with poinsettias. They're only good for Christmas, and you can't save them for next year. I have a bunch in the greenhouse that I got stuck with. Take'em. I have to get back inside to my family. Just use the green and red foils to wrap the pots. Put them to good use, spread some happiness."

Bob stuttered as he said, "Thank you, but I can't just take them. Besides I want to give them as gifts. It wouldn't be right for you to foot the bill and me to look like the hero."

Fred said, "Let's make a deal. You clean them out of my greenhouse, make some room for me, and we'll call it even. Now wrap'em up and get them out of here. Merry Christmas Bob."

Bob went into the greenhouse and there were about 50 poinsettias that didn't find a home before Christmas. He wrapped each pot in red or green foil and filled his station wagon with them. They were all different sizes and came with crimson red, white, and blushing pink flowers.

"Let's make a deal. You clean them out of my greenhouse, make some room for me, and we'll call it even. Now wrap 'em up and get them out of here."

When he arrived at the center, he backed right up to the senior center door and unloaded them into the building. There were about 30 seniors there. Bob gave each of them a flower and with a big smile wished everyone a Merry Christmas. The smaller poinsettias were placed with the 20 meals they were delivering to shut-ins. Bob drove some of the seniors around and helped them deliver the food to the seniors who couldn't get around. He was thrilled to see the joy a small plant brought to their faces. Bob felt a warmth and a purpose for being. He was happy. He didn't feel alone anymore.

In the afternoon, when he got back to the center, not only was he invited to join in the Christmas dinner, but he was told to call the stationhouse, and have those officers who couldn't get home for dinner or lived alone, to stop by and have something to eat. There was plenty for everyone. Five of the officers stopped by at staggered times and enjoyed themselves. Nobody left feeling they had been forgotten on this holiday or that it was just another workday.

As the day was winding down, Bob helped with the cleaning up and joined in the talk of Christmases past. Although Christmas was not the same as it used to be, he found sharing his stories and listening to others was a pleasant experience. When the day was over he

(Merry Christmas, continued on page 32)



Is this a cat Halloween costume? No, Dave Schade attended a recent SHARE fundraiser. Actually he more than attended he participated! A “good time” was had by...most. See more information on SHARE beginning on page 5.

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drove a few of the seniors home. He then stopped by the stationhouse for a last minute holiday visit with his coworkers, and all the cops who had stopped by couldn't stop talking about the experience. The officers who didn't make it seemed envious. They all wanted to know if it was going to be the same next year and what could they do to help. The true meaning of the holiday seemed to have bitten them all.

Bob finally left the stationhouse and went back to his apartment. He had a small ceramic Christmas tree on an end table. He turned its lights on. He turned on the stereo and was listening to Christmas carols as he settled into his easy chair with a cup of hot coffee and was looking at a photo of his children that he had received from them as a Christmas present before they left. Just as he settled in, the phone rang. He picked it up and said “Hello.”

He heard from the other end of the phone in unison “Merry Christmas Dad! Where have you been? We've been calling all day? We were starting to worry about you.”

He said “Hi Billy, Hi Debbie, Merry Christmas! How are things in Florida?”

Billy said “Terrible. It's too hot. Seaworld was crowded, Mom's friend Jim broke his toe, and we couldn't go to Disneyworld. We wish we stayed home with you Dad. Do you miss us?” Bob could feel a smile creeping onto his face, and tried to shake off a sense of smug satisfaction as he said, “I sure do. I wish the two of you were here with me. I've missed you both.”

“What did you do today Dad?”, Debbie asked.

Bob smiled as he said, “Not much, I spent the day with some new friends.”

Debbie asked, “Did you get anything else besides our present for Christmas?”

“I sure did” Bob said. “I got some cookies and a lot of love. Other than having you two here, what more could I ask for? It's really been kind of a special Christmas.”

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

THE DPS QUARTERLY

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