

# The DPS Quarterly

WELCOME



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

SPRING 2007

## Inside Stories

Colonel Audie Holloway .....2



Colonel Gary Folger .....3



Track Casting in Snow .....18



S.O.M.E. Run Reunion .....19



Welcome to Spring in Alaska!

Welcome home to DPS Deputy Commissioner John Glass



## Comments from Commissioner Walt Monegan

Our DPS management team is almost complete; we recently announced the appointment of our new Director of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers, Colonel Gary Folger. For many of you, such changes are old hat, and you continue to work with little or no hesitation; but for some of you, let me explain a little about what we, as your management team, intend to tackle.

I know that DPS is our Nation's most unique state police agency, covering an immense geographic expanse of Alaska with little of the infrastructure that all the other forty-nine states take for granted. Fact is, in miniature, my law enforcement experience more replicates what the rest of country traditionally understands in the way of the delivery of police service. So, understanding your challenges, what it is that I intend to offer you is the support and appreciation each of you deserve.

Techniques and technology in the law enforcement profession continually evolve, yet we still struggle to keep up with the pace of our changing society. Each of you are a part of an ever rarer breed, as best exemplified in our more challenging attempts to increase your numbers. Though our goal to help you help others is simple, our plan will not be. We must grow your numbers, and that includes newer recruitment strategies, increasing pay and benefits to be more competitive, seeking and implementing alternative ways in service delivery, and converting each of you into a "recruiter."

Newer recruitment strategies are being considered, such as marketing the concept of a five-year commitment, as opposed to a 20-25 year one. I fear too many of today's youth are wired differently than many of us were; it seems more of the youth speak of personal goals more than of careers. Offer them something that is more a resume builder and a worthy job that will enhance their personal image and bank account, and odds are that after five years, many will decide to ride out a career like the rest of us did. Five year commitments are also appealing to those who have retired from one career, like the military, but do not apply now because they know that they cannot realistically promise those 20-25 years.

Increased pay and benefits, our promise is to work with all our labor unions in finding that increased level of compensation that both sides can live with. We also want to explore college tuition benefits by working with the U of A system in seeing what can be agreed to in terms of college classes and degrees.

We are seeking and implementing alternative ways in service delivery which would alter the fundamental infrastructure in our Alaska Police Standards Council to create new levels of peace officers. Such new positions could take the more routine and less challenging requests for police service, saving those more demanding and exacting tasks for Troopers.

(Commissioner, continued on page 2)

## Commissioner, continued from page 1

This area also includes exploring the expansion of specialization in the areas of Crime Lab and crime scenes, the use of school resource officers, growing the Alcohol Beverage Control responsibilities, use of online reporting, bringing mobile data transmitters into patrol cars, and a host of things both in the works and as yet to be suggested.

Finally, with respect to converting each of you into a recruiter, most of you today are quietly going about your tasks with little or no fanfare. Recall when you first sought out this job? You were all shiney and new, anxious and excited to venture forth to help those in need and slay dragons. We all were. Over the years our energies were sapped from those others not seemingly a part of

what we signed up with. Our task is to renew you, not re-make you, and to shelter you as best we can from those "others."

See? Our goal is simple, but our plan is not. It will take all of our energy and hopefully only a little of yours. We want to let you re-focus on your missions and be that role model that will inspire others to follow your footsteps. Be Safe. Walt ■

## Greetings, from Colonel Audie Holloway



First of all, I apologize by not being able to introduce myself in person to everyone, but time and distance constraints limit that possibility. I also apologize for taking so long to send out an introductory email, but Commissioner Monegan and Governor Palin were trying to keep my selection quiet til they could make a public announcement. Luckily for me, their busy schedules prevented any type of press event.

I would like to take a moment of your time to introduce myself, although I do know many of you and have worked with some in the past. My name is Audie Holloway, recently retired from APD with 26 years of service. I was contacted by Commissioner Walt Monegan and asked to become the Director of the Alaska State Troopers, the greatest honor that I could imagine myself being offered. I accepted after some deep thought. My personal situation was such that I could accept the position. I had recently taken care of some issues for my mother in Tennessee. I had bought a small farm and was raising some crops and cattle. I was getting to work out of doors, clearing land,

building fences, building docks and barns, operating heavy equipment and occasionally getting to fly. My schedule was completely flexible. I was looking forward to several hiking and recreational trips around the U.S. in the coming months. I was planning to apply for a position in Afghanistan to see some more of the world. I was having a wonderful time.

So the deep thought I had to give to the offer was not personal, but professional, and it was not about me so much as it was about the Alaska State Troopers. Would my appointment be detrimental to the organization or could I contribute something to the organization that would make my selection worthwhile to AST? I had to give this request careful but complete consideration. I felt a strong pull of duty to accept. As you all know, you do not work in public service to become famous or get rich. I still felt a sense of service to Alaska and the people of Alaska. Also, when someone you respect and trust asks you to consider a request as serious as the one proposed and when the agency is one that you have admired and respected for nearly three decades, you want to be sure that you make the right decision.

I have worked with numerous AST troopers and employees in the past. I worked with AST narcs off and on since the early 80's. I have worked in varying capacities with and for all the previous directors since Colonel John Murphy and have the deepest respect for the work they did and the responsibility they carried. The first major call I had with a trooper was with Trooper Mike Opalka in 1981 or so. He was in a fight for his life and had his eye slashed from a PCP freak on the lower Hillside. The suspect was a small guy, but he had actually broken the front passenger seat of the trooper car off the seat rails,

after being hogtied into the seat. Trooper Opalka was handling the entire problem by himself. That was normal operating situations for troopers. I was astounded. I helped Trooper Opalka get the guy to then Humana Hospital ER where we had to turn a couch over onto the guy in the waiting room and get several orderlies and other APD cops to help hold the guy down. This was just one of many situations where I worked with troopers throughout my career.

I have also, unfortunately attended several trooper funerals around the state, and have seen firsthand that a single trooper cannot always handle every event and that it takes real courage to get back into your trooper car and go to the "next close call" just after the preceding "close call" knowing that you may or may not get backup.

AST is a proud organization and rightfully so. An Alaska State Trooper is distinct from any other police organization in the world. AST is unique and its tradition and image should never be allowed to deteriorate.

I had to consider all these things. And I had to consider something else. Was I good enough to be an Alaska State Trooper? I always thought I was a good cop. I put a lot of effort in to my work and I cared about APD and the people that I worked with and the ones that worked for me and I cared about the people of Anchorage and the services APD provided to them. I am proud of my career. I believe that being a police officer helped me to be an even better person than I would have been anyway. Now it seemed as if I would have to find it in myself to be an even better person if I took the position of director. I would have to reach a high standard and then strive for even higher, because I would have to set an example. I was think-

(Colonel Holloway, continued on page 3)

**Colonel Holloway**, continued from page 2

ing that I would have to “out-trooper” the troopers. Now I’m only human and I have a frailty or two, well maybe a few, alright, too many to list; but I was thinking, “I got to get back into a uniform, I’m not as young as I used to be, I have not shot a pistol since I retired, I have been tied to a desk for years, I am farming for heaven’s sake”. What could be positive about me becoming director of the Alaska State Troopers? I’ll screw up the first day. I do not even know how to wear the trooper hat.

So I pondered and I considered. And then I realized that I had no real good reasons to refuse. I knew I was capable. I knew that I could be of benefit to AST. I could not refuse without trying. I would try my best. I would put every effort I could muster into it. And if I failed, I would have at least tried with good intentions. This was a serious request to assist a friend, to assist an organization that I deeply respected and cared for, and to serve the State of Alaska again. It

was call to duty that I could not turn down. I know this sounds a bit theatrical, maybe a bit “Patton-ish”, but that is truly the way I feel, AND I know that is how you troopers feel also. If I felt I was becoming ineffective or detrimental to AST, I would remove myself immediately.

So here I am. I am deeply honored and humbled by being accepted into this position. I have been met 100% with openness, professionalism, respect, and even some optimism. I have been shown every courtesy. Major Leveque and the headquarters command staff have been patiently teaching me everything they can throw at me. There is a lot to learn in this business where you serve an entire state the size of Alaska. I have been given kindly instruction on how to wear the uniform correctly and I have even been given hat-wearing lessons. Who knew it was so hard to wear a hat!

I have a pledge for you all: I will work hard for AST. I will do everything possible

to make AST an even better organization. I intend to visit all the posts and detachments soon. I want to meet every employee. If you happen to be at headquarters I would ask that you stop by my office and introduce yourself to me if your schedule allows. I intend to invigorate AST. I intend to root out all those future AST leaders hiding in the outposts and give them assignments they will hate me for, but which will better the organization and prepare them for running this organization in the future. AST needs troopers to put in for promotions, so if you think you have a deep well of dedication as a trooper, allow me to show you how much more can be ripped out of your soul by taking promotions. (and you thought being a regular trooper was tough.) I intend to protect AST traditions and the AST image.

And I intend to wear my trooper hat! And if anyone were to think they could take it away from me, they better bring some friends and a lunch. ■

**Colonel Gary Folger**  
**Director of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers**

Commissioner Walt Monegan announced the appointment of Lt. Gary Folger, Regional Commander of ABWE in Fairbanks as the Colonel (Director) of the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers. This appointment became effective on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Colonel Folger began his law enforcement career in June 1980 as a Fish & Wildlife Aide in the Division of Fish & Wildlife Protection (FWP) in Cantwell. After graduation from the Public Safety Academy in 1982 his first assignment was State Trooper in Fairbanks. In August 1991 he transferred to King Salmon and was promoted in 1995 to Corporal. In 1997 he was promoted to Sergeant while still being stationed in King Salmon. In August 1998 he was promoted to Lieutenant and transferred to Juneau to become the “A” Detachment Commander for FWP. In October 2001 he transferred to Fairbanks as the detachment Commander.

Colonel Folger is a Department pilot and a boat operator. While stationed in Fairbanks he was a member of the Alaska State Troop-



**Colonel Gary Folger has been appointed Director of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers.**

ers SERT team. He has received numerous commendations and was Supervisor of the year for FWP in 2000.

Colonel Folger currently resides in Fairbanks with his wife, Patty and their daughter. He also has two sons of which one is currently in the US Military. As the Director he is stationed in Anchorage at DPS headquarters. ■

**Alaska Wildlife Troopers**  
 By Deputy Commissioner John Glass

The purpose of this brief section is to clarify where we are in separating AST back to two respective divisions: Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Wildlife Troopers. AWT will have its own command staff with a Colonel and a Major being the heads. Colonel Gary Folger has already filled the Colonel position.

Detachments are closely aligned with the current geographic boundaries of AST. The radio designators will return to the format that was formerly used. They will become 5 units. For example the Colonel will be 5-H-1 and each Trooper will be 5-Detachment ID-number. For the time being, the Detachment Commanders in AWT will retain their rank. We will review this at a later time.

The Wildlife Investigations Unit (WIU) will remain with its current staffing and will come under the direction of the AWT Director's Office. The Vessel and Marine Section will also report to the Director's office of AWT, but all vehicles will retain the Alaska State Trooper decal. The aircraft and vessels are Department of Public Safety resources. Accordingly, they will remain

(AWT, continued on page 4)

**AWT**, continued from page 3

within those Detachments where they are currently located. Detachment Commanders of Posts currently displaying ABWE signs will have new signs made identifying the Posts as AWT. The mission of the Department of Public Safety will be handled by mutual agreement between the Colonel's and their staffs including the Detachment Commanders at their level.

The questions regarding uniforms have probably been the most asked. Yes, there will be a "brown shirt" adopted by AWT. However, due to budget constraints they will also be wearing a blue pant (not a B.D.U.). This is important in order to use most of the current issued uniform. Replacing outer shells for vests, new coats and other related equipment is cost prohibitive. The uniform is wash and wear and will be worn without a tie. A black turtleneck may be worn underneath the shirt in inclement weather times.

There will be no lettering on the undershirt as a collar brass indicating AWT will be issued. The current metal badge and name tag will be worn. A white t-shirt will be worn at all other times. This will be a field uniform and if attending court or a desk assignment the blue class "A" uniform will be worn.

Recruitment will remain under the Division of Alaska State Troopers. The Director's Office will work with them to insure that the needs of AWT will be met. The vacancy factor for both Divisions will be held at equal levels whenever possible. Promotional opportunities will be to both Divisions. They will be handled by Workplace Alaska as is currently being done. There may be some Troopers who want AWT that are currently working patrol, all attempts to accommodate those individuals will be considered staying with contractual agreements and the needs of the Department.

It is very important that the Academy will remain the same for all Troopers. There is a consideration for an extended training week at the Academy. All AWT recruits will also go through the full FTO process. After successful completion of the FTO, the recruit will remain onsite up to 30 days to complete any open cases they may have opened during the FTO process. They then will enter a possible four (4) week FTO program for AWT. Again, this is in the formative stages and merits further discussion.

Hopefully this will answer many of the questions that exist out there. It may also dispel some of the rumors flying around. Please be patient during the transition and remember that this is a work in progress and will take time. It is uncertain how long this process will take. Hopefully, we can move it along quickly as the summer season is soon to be upon us. ■

**Colonel Audie Holloway** announced the following promotions:

**Investigator Robert Hunter**, ABI, Soldotna post, to sergeant, "E" detachment, Soldotna post. Sergeant Hunter began his AST career in 1999. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to "E" detachment, Soldotna post. Sergeant Hunter was reassigned in October of 2001 as an investigator with the Soldotna General Investigations Unit. A year later, he transferred to "A" detachment, Haines post. He returned to Soldotna in April of 2005 to take an investigator position with ABI.

Sergeant Hunter has received advanced training in SART, and computer forensic examinations.

**Trooper Andrew Merrill**, "C" detachment, Bethel post, to Sergeant, "C" detachment, Nome post. Sergeant Merrill began his AST career in February 2002. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to "D" detachment, Fairbanks post. In the spring of 2003, he was reassigned to the rural unit in Fairbanks. Later that year, he transferred to "C" detachment, Bethel post. Sergeant Merrill has received advanced training in Avalanche Search and Rescue, Specialized Advanced Intensive Sexual Abuse Interviewing Skills, SART, NIMS/ICS 100-800, and as a DARE Instructor.

## Promotions:

**Trooper Nathan Sheets**, ABWE, Mat-Su region, Palmer post, to Sergeant, "C" detachment, Aniak post. Sergeant Sheets began his AST career in January 1991. After graduating from the academy, he was assigned to "D" detachment, Fairbanks post. He was reassigned as an investigator in the spring of 1992 to the Fairbanks office of the Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit. Sergeant Sheets transferred to join the Anchorage Airport Detail of the Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit during the summer of 1997. During the fall of 2000, Sergeant Sheets was reassigned to "C" detachment's Anchorage Service Unit. He transferred to Nome post, "C" detachment a year later. Sergeant Sheets was reassigned in the fall of 2003 as an investigator in ABADE's WAANT unit, Nome post. During the summer of 2006, he transferred to ABWE, Mat-Su region, Palmer post.

Sergeant Sheets has received advanced training in many facets of narcotics investigation and he is a certified instructor in drug identification. He has taught search and seizure classes at the Public Safety Academy since 2000. He has also been a scent detection K-9 handler.

**Sergeant Tory Oleck**, Palmer Post, ABWE, to Lieutenant, Regional Commander, Mat-Su Region, ABWE. Lieutenant Oleck began his law enforcement career in

1989 as a Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officer in the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection. After graduating from the Academy in 1993, his first assignment was as a trooper in "D" detachment, Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection, Fairbanks post. He transferred to Iliamna post in 1998. He was promoted to sergeant in 2000 and transferred to his current position as the supervisor of the Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement's Palmer post.

Lieutenant Oleck has attended extensive training in interviewing and interrogation, and administrative investigations, and attended the APSC Executive Development Seminar. Lieutenant Oleck is a DPS pilot and holds both commercial and instrument ratings. He has over 1850 hours of flight time.

**Sergeant Dane Gilmore**, Alaska Bureau of Investigation, Soldotna unit, to Lieutenant, Deputy Commander, E detachment. Lieutenant Gilmore began his law enforcement career in 1993. After graduating from the Academy, his first assignment was as a trooper in A detachment, Ketchikan post, Division of Alaska State Troopers. He subsequently transferred to Delta Junction post, Fairbanks post, and Galena post. In 2001, he transferred to Soldotna post. A year later he was assigned to the General Investigations

(Promotions, continued on page 5)

## Promotions, continued from page 4

Unit, E detachment. He was promoted in 2005 to sergeant and became the supervisor of the Alaska Bureau of Investigation Soldotna unit.

Lieutenant Gilmore has attended extensive training in child sexual abuse and sexual assault investigations, crime scene investigation, and search and rescue management. He is an APSC certified instructor.

**Sergeant David Tugmon**, Klawock post Supervisor, A detachment, to Lieutenant, Deputy Commander, Alaska Bureau of Investigation, effective June 15, 2007.

Lieutenant Tugmon began his law enforcement career in 1984 as a sheriff's deputy in Oregon and eventually rose to

the rank of Detective Sergeant. In 1988, he was hired by Sitka Police Department as an investigator. Lieutenant Tugmon returned to Oregon in 1997 and worked as a sheriff's department detective sergeant.

In August 2001, he joined the Alaska State Troopers and attended the DPS Academy, from which he graduated as the class valedictorian. He was assigned to Soldotna post, E detachment. Lieutenant Tugmon transferred to Kotzebue post in 2003 and two years later, he was promoted to sergeant and transferred to Klawock post.

Lieutenant Tugmon has extensive experience and training in major crimes and narcotics investigations. Lieutenant Tugmon

is an APSC certified instructor and teaches RADAR and firearms. He possesses an APSC advanced certificate.

The Director's Office has great confidence in their ability to provide leadership and help carry our Division into the future. Each of these Troopers impressed the members of the promotion board with their consistent professional growth. They have pursued professional opportunities, and have shown flexibility, initiative, and good judgment. Most importantly, these Troopers have demonstrated they have what it takes to be a first-line supervisor. They are decisive, enthusiastic about our organization and missions and they lead by example. ■

## DPS Civilian of the Year

On 1-16-07, Vessel Technician II Jim Stenglein, of the P/V Stimson, was presented with the 2005 DPS Civilian of the Year award. Included in the photo are Cpt. Steve Arlow, Sgt. Greg Garcia, Jim Stenglein and his son Joe.

VT II Stenglein has been employed with DPS for the past 16 years. Mr. Stenglein's performance has been outstanding, excelling in all departmental duties. Because of his thoroughness and attention to detail, the P/V Stimson is always ready for

operational commitments. Mr. Stenglein received several commendations for his exceptional performance during 2005 for his supervision in deck operations and expertise of the vessel's mechanical components. Mr. Stenglein was also instrumental in keeping the P/V Stimson's small boats operational and engaged in the Bureau's core mission of wildlife enforcement.

Mr. Stenglein epitomizes Southwest Region's goal of teamwork and stewardship. The P/V Stimson was short handed through-

out most of 2005. Mr. Stenglein covered his engine room duties in addition to many of the deck duties. His performance was outstanding, and he completed all tasks, which included operating both of the cranes and loading and off loading patrol skiffs, effectively and safely. This type of performance is typical of his outstanding willingness and ability to carry out new assignments. ■



### Greg Wilkinson Says Farewell



Major Matt Leveque presents Greg Wilkinson with a going away gift at a farewell gathering on January 19th.

Greg has worked for DPS here at HQ as Information Officer II since January 1999. Greg has accepted a job at the Department of Health and Social Services as Information Officer III. Greg has been a very loyal and integral part of DPS and he will be missed.

# Division of Alaska State Troopers

## The PIO has a new Information Officer



Information Officer Megan Peters

Welcome Megan Peters to the Department of Public Safety! Peters has been assigned to the Public Information Office of the Alaska State Troopers as Information Officer II. She brings knowledge, enthusiasm, energy and experience to the job. She graduated from the University of Alaska Anchorage with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and Public Communications and, prior to joining DPS, was a reporter at ABC Alaska News in Anchorage.

She has an understanding and an appreciation for Law Enforcement in Alaska that goes beyond her training. Peters is a life-long Alaskan and grew up in a 'Trooper family'. Her dad, Trooper James Moen, served as

a Fish and Wildlife Protection Trooper for nearly two decades in Anchorage, Palmer, Petersburg, Soldotna and McGrath. Because of her personal connection to the Alaska State Troopers, she has a strong desire to serve the organization and help us put our best 'boot' forward.

Peters is very excited to be in a position where she can help illuminate the hard work, skill and dedication Troopers bring to Alaskans and the resources of the state. Please join us in welcoming the new addition to our team. We are excited to have a new face onboard that is also a part of, and knows, the Trooper history. ■

## News from the Recruitment Unit.

This winter has seen a lot of change in the Recruitment Unit at Headquarters. Lt. Dave Tracy accepted a transfer to Mat-Su West but before he officially reported to his new digs, he spent three "fun filled" months at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. "Thanks" Dave for your recruitment efforts at Headquarters for the past two years and we expect you'll continue promoting the Alaska State Troopers while you're at the NA and upon your return to the Valley. Best wishes in your new assignment!

Lt. Jeff Laughlin moved over from the Legislative Liaison office to supervise the Recruitment Unit and is enjoying traveling the state, talking with prospective applicants and visiting with Troopers in the field about all things DPS. In addition to the recruitment efforts, Lt. Laughlin is assigned to work with the Detachments as they train new Troopers during the Field Training and Evaluation Program (FTEP). This provides a great opportunity for the recruitment staff to observe new employees as they work their way through the training and on to what we hope will be a safe, exciting, and rewarding career.

Another change in the Recruitment Unit was announcement that the Retired Trooper and Background Investigator Bruce Lester accepted a full time job with Doyon Ltd. Bruce did an outstanding job for the Recruitment Unit and his humor and hard work will be sorely missed! "Good luck" Bruce and keep in touch!

Retired Troopers Dan Hickman and Bob Barnes, along with former Trooper Loretta Mumford are the remaining Background Investigators for the Recruitment Unit and are working hard to ensure we have all the information available to hire the very best future Trooper, Fire Marshal, or Court Service Officer. It's a huge responsibility and these former commissioned Troopers continue to give 110%. Next time you see one of these dedicated Investigators, give them a big "thank you" for tirelessly working hard behind the scenes as they look into the backgrounds of all those who apply to join our honorable professions.

Finally, and some could argue most importantly, Becky Lyons and Jennifer Gordon come to work every day and keep the Unit operating smoothly. Whether it's answering questions from the applicants, scheduling testing and interviews, keeping track of the files, ordering eye-catching trinkets, or attending Job Fairs, Becky and Jennifer take it all in stride, professionally and with a smile! Without their talents and abilities, as well as their dedication and loyalty to the Department, the Recruitment Unit would certainly falter. "Thanks" Becky and Jennifer, the two of you keep the Recruitment Unit working together as a team!

As always, anyone with "fresh ideas" about recruitment is encouraged to call or email us with your thoughts. We rely on those of you "in the field" for any and all



Lt. Lowden doing his part for the recruitment effort at Lake Otis Elementary. Thanks Dan!

recruitment ideas and opportunities. We ask that each of you continue to talk to the public about a career as an Alaska State Trooper, Alaska Wildlife Trooper, Court Service Officer, Village Public Safety Officer, Fire Marshal, or any of the equally important support positions in the DPS family. Anyone expressing interest can contact our office by phone, email, or in-person. Interested persons can also be referred to Workplace Alaska online for a plethora of job opportunities both commissioned and non-commissioned. Finally, for those who haven't done so yet, check out our awesome website at [www.alaskastatetrooper.com](http://www.alaskastatetrooper.com)

We're optimistic about things to come and pledge to work tirelessly to help identify and hire qualified men and women to serve as Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, and Court Service Officers, but we can't do it without your help. Remember to "Recruit, recruit, recruit!" ■

## D.A.R.E. Officer Training



AST members that attended the 2007 D.A.R.E. Officer Training in February. Back row from left: Trooper Brian Zeisel of Healy Post; Trooper Andrew Adams, Talkeetna Post; Trooper Vance Peronto, Koezebue Post; Trooper Josh Heinbaugh, Glenallen Post. Front row from left: Trooper Michael Henry, Anchor Point Post; Trooper Jesse Osborn, Ketchikan Post; and Trooper Timothy Powell, Tok Post.

The Alaska D.A.R.E. Training Center graduated 15 new D.A.R.E. Officers February 16, 2007 at the Coast International Inn.

These 15 officers attended an intense 80 hour training that began on February 5<sup>th</sup> and ended with the culmination ceremony. Kris

Showalter from Lt. Governor Sean Parnell's office attended and represented Governor Palin's office. Kris Showalter read the letter of congratulations from Governor Sarah Palin and a message from Lt. Governor Sean Parnell. Commissioner Walt Monegan from the Department of Public Safety and Adrianna Garcia Youth Advisory Board D.A.R.E. America and D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc. both spoke to the graduating officers. Bob Galosich from D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc. presented former Educational Advisory Jim Yeargan with an award for his service to the D.A.R.E. program.

Trooper Brian Zeisel received the Outstanding Red Team Member award. Trooper Jesse Osborn received the Outstanding Blue Team Member award. Trooper Michael Henry received the Outstanding Yellow Team Member award. Officer Benjamin Langham from Kenai PD received the Outstanding Class member award. ■



## From AST Chaplains Boyd and Debra Waltman:

Dear Friends,

We would like to reintroduce ourselves to you, even though we have met some of you at the various posts throughout Alaska, at the Academy, or in the Bush villages. Our prayers and thoughts are constantly with you and your families. We want you to know that we are here to serve you, not only on call outs but in other capacities as well. If you or your family desire confidential counseling related to any aspect of your professional or personal life, please contact us. All communication is strictly on a confidential basis and will not be released to departmental members

or any other person; and you may contact us without having to notify your supervisor or anyone else. The Alaska Police Chaplains Ministries has many referrals at its disposal. Our first priority is to serve you. We are also trained in Critical Incident Stress Debriefing. Constant traumatic and stressful situations may cause symptoms which could be alleviated by a stress debriefing. You are welcome to contact us regarding this as well. May God Bless the work you are doing. Our salute to the best police force in Alaska! Boyd and Debra Waltman, 907-357-2482, chaplain@mtaonline.net ■



### Digital Photography Tip: *Stop The Shakes*

Steadying your digital camera can reduce digital camera shake. If you take digital photos that suffer from blurred images, you may be experiencing "camera shake". This is caused by the camera moving while

the picture is being taken - sometimes the result of not holding the digital camera steady. Try holding the digital camera closer to your body. Don't let your elbows stick out, bring them in so your lower arms (below the elbow) are parallel to your body.

Then, move your elbows in, as close to your chest or stomach as possible, while you are still able to look through the viewfinder. The more you can steady your arms the greater the chances your digital camera photos will remain sharp.

# Sitka Training Academy

## News from the Academy By Lt. Helgoe

Things here at the Academy are great. Over the past few months the staff instructor line-up has changed. Cpl. Tony Wegrzyn and his wife Gala completed their move from the Valley and made it here by October 30<sup>th</sup>. Cpl. Grant Miller arrived at the Academy on November 14 with his wife Keri, daughter Raegan and son Wyatt in tow. Cpl. Ralf Lysdahl and his dog "Rocky" arrived on Feb. 21, just in time to help out with the start of ALET #37. Rocky was a big hit and seemed to enjoy having free reign of the Academy property. We're eagerly awaiting the arrival of Cpl. "Moose" Sims and his wife Jessica. They are expected to be here by mid April. Cpl. Scott Carson is still away serving his country overseas and is not expected to return to us until Oct. of this year. His wife Amy and their two boys, Josh and Jacob, are doing fine and missing their daddy. Sgt. Roberts and I are very pleased with our new Corporals. Cpl. Chad Goeden, his wife Kelly and their two boys Zack and Josh, will be leaving us soon to go on to Fairbanks. Cpl. Chad Goeden will leave behind some rather large shoes to fill. We will miss Chad and his family.

Our civilian staff continues to give us the outstanding support we need to get our jobs done. A special thanks to Mike Leccese, Jaye Forst, Dawn Barragan and Beth Carbilion. Without you I don't know what Rick and I would do.

Snow fall in Sitka has been more than anyone had expected, hoped or wanted. A local resident had mentioned that he hadn't seen this much snowfall in Sitka during the past thirty years he'd lived here. It continues to snow as I sit here writing this! I'm beginning to worry about the snow load on the roof. We're thinking maybe the Major would let us purchase snow machines to train the new recruits on. Because of the snowfall we haven't been able to take the recruits on

the usual runs as part of the PT program (the recruits aren't complaining).

This is the first time in recent memory that we've had to call a front end loader to move the snow. Even the Trooper Bear out front appears to be praying for a break in the weather.

VPSO class #33 graduated on March 9, 2007. This was a great VPSO class and the Academy staff wishes them well as they return to their families and community.

ALET #37 started on February 25<sup>th</sup>. As of this writing we have 36 recruits here in training. Represented in this class are law enforcement officers from Juneau, Alaska State Parks, Anchorage Airport, Fire Marshall's Office, Valdez, Ketchikan, Fairbanks Airport, Homer, Soldotna, Sitka, Skagway, Kodiak, one self pay, and of course DPS. So far this ALET class looks very strong. ■



The Trooper Bear at the Academy seems to be praying for the snow to stop.



VPSO Class #33 From left to right is Paula Yunak, Scammon Bay; George Robinson, Tanana; Charles Hartzell, Angoon; Jedidia Atchak, Chevak; John Friendly, Eek; Tim Beaucage, Eagle; Mike Lejarzar, St. George; and Brenden Lewis, Tuluksak.

### Digital Video Tip: Use a Monopod

Most professionals mount their camera on a tripod for video assignments. There is no better way to steady a camcorder than to secure it to a rock-solid tripod with a fluid head. But that probably won't be practical

for much of the shooting you do. In the real world, people are already schlepping way too much stuff, and a bulky tripod could be the straw that breaks Daddy's back.

The common sense answer is a simple, compact, and very effective accessory called

a monopod. Essentially, it's a one-legged tripod. Even though they are extremely compact and easy to transport, monopods are an excellent tool to help you properly hold your shots. Your footage will improve immediately.



# A Detachment News

By Shelly Dunn

## Hazardous winter conditions in Ketchikan.

Rare low temperatures struck Ketchikan for an extended time period in November, freezing the buildings' water pipes. The Post was without water for well over a week. A porta potty had to be rented to accommodate personnel.



Wade McClennan, Lt. Rodney Dial and Captain Kurt Lidwig.

Trooper Josh Bentz and his wife Tennie, of Haines Post, became the proud parents of their new daughter, Taiya Rose Bentz. Taiya was born at Bartlett Regional Hospital, in Juneau on March 9th. She weighed 8lbs. 10 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Mom and daughter are healthy and doing well. Congratulations to the Bentz family!



Gabriel Louise Ely



Taiya Rose Bentz

CSO Richard Ely of Juneau Post and his wife Amy, are the proud parents of their new daughter, Gabrielle Louise Ely. She was born on 3-5-07, at Bartlett Regional Hospital, in Juneau. She was 7 pounds 8 ounces, 20 1/4 inches long and in good health. Congratulations, Richard and Amy!

ABWE Tech's Wade McClennan and Charlie Johnson resigned from Ketchikan Post this winter. Johnson is now Officer Johnson of the Ketchikan Police Department and McClennan is attending a maritime school in Maryland to become a Merchant Marine.



Trooper Gary Webb receives his 10 year pin and letter from Captain Kurt Ludwig.



Trooper Steve Shern receives his 20 year pin and letter from Major Matt Leveque.



Sgt. Dave Tugmon of Klawock Post received his 5 year pin from Captain Kurt Ludwig.



Trooper Mark Fines receives Commendation for Honorable Service from Major Matt Leveque on behalf of Colonel Julia Grimes, for his involvement in an April 2005 case that resulted in the conviction of two individuals on multiple felony counts when he discovered two men in Ketchikan involved with the "Irish Travelers" scam.



Trooper Josh Bentz of Haines is enjoying his time in Haines.



RDII Shelly Dunn says "I think so" to the outdoor porta potty.



RDII Stephanie Chatham says "I don't think so" to the dispatch porta potty.

# B Detachment News

By ROMINA MANEVAL

**B** Detachment remains at a steady and hectic pace with its new Mat-Su West Post and the new Traffic Safety Corridor on the Parks Highway, but these past few months have been flowing with winds of change.

Trooper Ronny Simmons and Trooper Jon Simeon made a presentation to Copper Center Elementary kids to teach them about snow machine safety. Paula Lawlor of Copper Center Elementary boasts of the excellent job the Troopers did, "The kids listened carefully and learned a lot."



**Trp. Ronny Simmons & Trp. Jon Simeon at Copper Center Elementary.**

Trooper Josh Heinbaugh of Glennallen and Trooper Andrew Adams of Talkeetna achieved certification as Drug Abuse Resistance Educate (D.A.R.E.) Officers. Troopers Adams and Heinbaugh both graduated on February 16, 2007. Each year the Department of Public Safety, AST, holds D.A.R.E. training for Police Officers, State Troopers, Military Police and VPSO's throughout the state.



**Trp. Josh Heinbaugh & Trp. Andrew Adams attended the D.A.R.E. Certification Program.**



**Sgt. Kid Chan received his new Sergeant Badge from his wife Melissa.**



**Sgt. Chan's family attended the badge pinning.**

These officers work extremely hard to learn how to present D.A.R.E. curriculum to Alaska Elementary and Middle School children in their communities.

***Congratulations***

B Detachment congratulated Sergeant Kid Chan with presentation of official Sergeant Badge.

B Detachment congratulated Trooper Chris Hill with presentation of ten years of service pin.

B Detachment congratulated Trooper Ronny Simmons with presentation of five years of service pin.

B Detachment congratulated Trooper Howard Peterson and Trooper Scott Ide with presentation of an Alaska Police Standard Council Intermediate Certificate.

B Detachment congratulated Trooper Al Borrego, Trooper Amy Bowen, Trooper Robert Casey, Trooper Jesse Darby and Trooper Robert Lawson for advancement from State Trooper Recruit to Alaska State Trooper. ■



**Lt. Rick Roberts received his 25 year pin from Captain Dennis Casanovas.**



**Trooper Chris Hill received his 10 year pin from Captain Casanovas.**



**Trp. Ronny Simmons received his 5 year pin from Captain Casanovas.**

***Arrivals***

On Monday December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006, B Detachment welcomed new Trooper Recruits Jason Ball, Andrew Gorn, William Holterback, Steven Kevan, Luis Nieves and Brandon Viator.

**(B Detachment, continued on page 11)**

**B Detachment**, continued from page 10

In the month of December 2006, B Detachment also welcomed Sergeant Kid Chan and Trooper Todd Womack to Palmer Post and Trooper Mike Wooten to Mat-Su West Post.

On February 1, 2007, B Detachment welcomed Trooper Ronald Hayes to Mat-Su West Post and on March 1, 2007 B Detachment welcomed Trooper Dugger Cook. Both have been assigned to Palmer Post in the past, so we welcome them back.

For the month of March, B Detachment eagerly awaits arrival of Lieutenant David Tracy. He's been attending the FBI national Academy in Quantico, VA since early January, 2007.



**Trp. Greg Pealater, Tpr. Robert Nunley & Tpr. Mitch Lewis with their going away plaques.**

**Baby Arrivals**

On January 12, 2007, @ 08:40, Trooper Nathan Duce and wife Deborah welcomed their daughter Casey Lynn Duce weighing 8 lbs and 20" long. Mom, Dad and Baby Casey are doing well.

On February 12, 2007, @ 07:34, CSO Tim Adams and wife Alana welcomed their son Simeon Isaac Adams weighing 7 lbs 7 oz 20 ½ "long. Mom, Dad and Baby Simeon are doing well.

**Departures**

On December 15, 2006, B Detachment said good-bye to Trooper Robert Nunley, Trooper Greg Pealater and Trooper Mitch Lewis -- who managed to keep showing up at every potluck for the next month.

On January 15, 2007, B Detachment said good-bye to Trooper Kim Sledgister and Trooper Recruit William Holterback as they pursue their careers with other agencies.

On December 30, 2006, the infamous and legendary Lieutenant Richard Roberts said good-bye after 28 years of service. He will be greatly missed as his service was invaluable ranging from his supervisory duties to carpenter-handyman. Although he wore many hats, he always had time to share his professional advisements as well as his personal experiences. His talent and charismatic personality will be greatly missed. ■



**Trp. Nathan Duce, wife Deborah, newborn daughter Casey Lynn and her brothers Chanlen and Jonah.**



**Trp. Tim Adams, wife Alana, newborn son Simeon Isaac and his sister.**

**LT. Rick Roberts leaves us with this:**

Seems as always, there is a never ending supply of bumps in the road. I expected to stay through 30 yrs (made it 28+). The obligations to an elderly mother makes this impossible. Over the years, those that come to us for a paycheck or "the prestige" or some other temporal reward have consistently fallen by the wayside. Good men and women, mostly, but unwilling or unable to "stay the course". Those that have served for a loftier purpose have always found success.

One of our goals in life should be to always smooth the path for others. To make things a little better than they were before. Difficult to remember under the relentless pounding of problems visited on each of you, all day, every day. Still it is necessary to remember that each person calling the Troopers has the worlds most significant problem, in their own eyes. They each deserve your best.

My entire life I have had the utmost respect for wrestlers. They go out on the mat and compete one on one, daring greatly, in front of others. Accountable for their conduct and their success or failure. Troopers have always seemed to me to be like that. Facing danger, problems or issues head on. Running to the sound of the guns. Courage---Not the absence of fear, but the mastery of it.

I have been grateful for the lessons learned. More often than not due to my own errors but just as often from a young man or woman and occasionally from an old salt. I have been privileged to serve with many of the finest people I have or will ever know. Many of you across the State came though Palmer as a recruit these last few years. It is you and other old friends that cause me to send such a widespread message. I will remain in the "Valley" [robertsck@att.net](mailto:robertsck@att.net)

**In parting**

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; Whose face is marred by sweat and dust and blood; Who errs and comes short again and again; Who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in worthy causes. Who at best, knows in the end, of the triumph of high achievement, and who at worst if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat.

Theodore Roosevelt- 1904  
Words to live by.

God bless  
R. ■

# C Detachment News

**B**ethel News: There have been a lot of great things happening in Bethel over the past few months. It has now been a year since everyone moved into State housing or the "Compound" as it is more commonly referred to.

This year the new commons building provided a great location for the annual Bethel Post Christmas Party. The evening was a little more formal than in years past, but a great time was had by all. The evening culminated in the traditional Chinese auction gift exchange. The party got rowdy and all bets were off in anticipation of the infamous "furry thong" making its annual appearance. This year Trooper Ramin Dunford was the unlucky recipient of the long time Bethel gift and after the modeling session no one had the heart to "steal" it away from him. It was a great evening and a wonderful tradition of the Bethel Post.

Bethel has now grown to a respectable post with more Troopers being posted here then ever before. We have seen the addition of several new faces and are happy to welcome Trooper Lucas Altepeter, Trooper Terry Tuckwood, Trooper William Kemper, Trooper Mark Pearson, Trooper Andrew Ballesteros, and Investigator Jessie Carson to our family here in the "compound."

We also saw the departure of several families: Trooper Kevin Yancey transferred to Fairbanks ABI and Investigator Joseph Hazelaar transferred to Anchorage MOU. In April, Trooper Andrew Merrill will be promoted to Sergeant and he and his family will leave Bethel and head to Nome. These excellent Troopers and their families will be missed by everyone in Bethel and we wish them the best of luck in their new assignments. ■

Congratulations to Trooper Teague Widmier on receiving C Detachment Trooper of the Year, Trooper Andrew Merrill for completing the new "Pilot" program and earning his wings as a department fixed-wing pilot, and Trooper Michael Roberts for his progress towards becoming a department helicopter pilot.



**Bethel annual Christmas party setting.**

# D Detachment News

By SUE ROGERS, AST FAIRBANKS

**W**e're heading in to spring and not a moment to soon! We have had lots of personnel changes during the past couple of months. New trooper recruits currently on FTO include Dustin Jorgenson, Daniel Gunderson, Peter Hawbaker and Terry Tuckwood (who really belongs to Bethel).



**The new display in the lobby at the Fairbanks post.**

The list of transfers includes Trooper Steve Lantz who has joined Fairbanks ABI, leaving Delta AST; Trooper Tage Toll who is now stationed in Northway and Trooper Robert Nunley who transferred to Galena from Palmer AST. Our goodbyes included Trooper Andrew Ballesteros who is now in Nome and Trooper Rachel Foster who transferred to Kodiak.

Dispatch in Fairbanks is losing two dispatchers, Jessica Lenahan has moved over to the court system as a Deputy Clerk. Shawna Cowles is leaving for Fort Campbell, Kentucky to be with her fiancé, Joe.

Evidence clerk Diane Lindner spent the weekend of February 24 and 25 in Willow watching her daughter, Ava, compete in her first Jr. Iditarod race.

Trooper Ryan Nichols spent some time in January printing, cropping and framing photos to set up a new display in the Lobby at Fairbanks Post. The display consists of numerous photos of "D" Detachment troopers during day to day activities. Trooper Nichols was also instrumental in having a television set installed in the lobby that plays a video of AST TV commercials during business hours. Since the lobby is shared with DMV, it's a great recruitment tool. ■



**Winter patrol in the Yukon.**



**Winter patrol with Super Cubs in Yukon Flats, Trooper Roe and Evarts.**



**The R44 Helicopter on Chatanika.**

(D Detachment, continued on page 13)

D Detachment, continued from page 12

**Ava's Race**

By Diane Lindner  
Evidence Custodian  
"D" Detachment

On February 24, 2007, in Knik, Alaska, my 15 year old daughter Ava, and her team of 9 excited sled dogs, left the starting line of the 2007 Junior Iditarod Race at 10:06 a.m. As they sped by me I shouted out "I love you", filled with awe and pride, and watched as "my baby" headed down a trail she had never been on, driving a team I could only hope would bring her safely over the finish line some 24 hours later.

Out of the 27 young people entered in the race, Ava was one of 17 rookies; this was also her first race ever, and her first year of seriously training sled dogs. Growing up the daughter of Sonny Lindner, a veteran dog musher who won the inaugural Yukon Quest in 1984, and who has finished as high as second place in the famous Iditarod, Ava had been exposed to the mushing world her whole life, but never personally participated in serious training or racing.

Ava announced her plans to race last summer, and in all honesty I was skeptical of whether she would be able to commit to the training schedule I knew she would have to dedicate herself to in order to accomplish her goal. She assured me that she was ready to change the visitation schedule between her father and I, which would require her being at her dad's every weekend, one day a week, and holidays from school, etc. I was worried she didn't fully understand it would mean time away from her social life, and the many friends she calls family. Needless to say, I worried for no reason.

Instead I watched as my daughter accepted the challenge of training, balancing school work, and to keep going despite some

difficult times over the last year. I arrived at the starting line to find a calm, confident young lady ready to make her mark in the mushing world, and I could not have been more happy for her, especially considering that just two weeks before, she was lying



in the ER at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, being treated for a concussion she received as a result of flipping her sled on a training run, and hitting her head on the frozen hard-packed trail. Serious debate followed about whether she would be able to compete.

Once out of the starting chute I would not meet up with Ava again until she crossed the finish line in Willow the next day. I knew her plan was to run almost non-stop to Yentna, the checkpoint where the teams had to take a mandatory 10 hour layover. The race would be a total of 160+ and Yentna would fall just short of the half-way mark.

Ava left Yentna on schedule which was 3:19 a.m. I was wide awake in my hotel room at that time, and all I could think was my baby girl was going to be taking off in the cold, dark night, alone, and on a trail she had never been on. Believe me, sleep did not come easily!

I made it to Willow that morning with almost two hours to spare before I stood on frozen Big Lake, patiently waiting and watching for Ava and her team. Minutes

seemed like hours, but I finally saw them in the distance, drop down onto the lake and begin the last mile to the finish line.

As Ava and the team neared the finish line, I could make out the frost and ice covering the dogs (they had faced -40 wind chill factor for almost 30 miles), and as they got closer, all I could make out of the frozen hood of her parka, was the tip of Ava's nose.

Ava finished the race in 6<sup>th</sup> place; I could not have been more proud. I was impressed most not by the place she finished, but afterwards, when I realized that what she enjoyed most was the total experience; meeting and sharing it all with a wonderful group of young people, making new friends, and never losing sight of her dreams and goals.

In the end, I realized that my daughter has become everything and more I hoped she would, and watching her take advantage of every adventure life has to offer, and have fun doing it, is the best gift I could ever ask for. ■



**Trp. Nunley getting a ride into the village of Koyukuk from the airport. Trp. Nunley has made multiple visits to the communities in which he now provides law enforcement. He understands that one must dress for the ride in the airplane and the ride from the airport into the village. Photo taken by Trooper Santora.**

**E Detachment News**

By SHAE HOLLANDSWORTH, AST SOLDOTNA

This winter has been unforgettable for those of us on the Peninsula, as it has been a season of highs and lows. We've welcomed new members into our DPS family, and had to say goodbye to others.

Brad and Rachel Nelson welcomed their first child, Lincoln Thomas Nelson, on December 4. He was a healthy 8 lbs. 4 oz at

birth, and it appears he'll be a tall one, just like Dad. Dispatcher Glenda Sterling got right to work creating a set of junior trooper pajamas for little Lincoln, complete with the yellow and red stripe down the sides.

Captain Tom Bowman retired in December after 31 years of service. His retirement party was very well-attended, and he was

presented with some gorgeous gifts, including a hand-carved antler by Sergeant Sonny Sabala and an inscribed pocket watch from E Detachment. Since retiring, Tom has taken a job on the North Slope, and one of his not-so-favorite duties is polar bear watch. He has yet to see one, so it must be akin to watching paint dry.

(E Detachment, continued on page 14)

# E Detachment, continued from page 13

January brought us the sudden loss of retired Colonel Randy Crawford when his airplane went down in Cook Inlet. Randy was a frequent visitor to Soldotna Headquarters, and sometimes we still expect to look up and see him walking down the hall surrounded by his bounding dogs. Randy's death came as quite a shock, as he seemed virtually invincible. He is missed, but has left quite a legacy not only for the Troopers, but to the entire community.

Trooper Recruits Joseph Minnick and Nicholas Kimmel have been training at Soldotna post since mid-December. They've been kept very busy, that's for sure!

Upon completion of field training, Troopers Kyle Carson, Matt Ezell, and Joshua Cook are honored at Soldotna Post.

Dispatcher Stacey Day and Trooper Joshua Cook recently attended the Nikiski North Star Elementary School's Family Safety night. Trooper Cook, joined by Eddie the Gun Safety Eagle, was a real hit with the kids. Stacey, who is always willing to help out with any community event, assisted the school principal in handing out prizes and fliers.

After years of hard work by Communications Center Supervisor Tammy Goggia, Captains Bowman and Mlynarik, Administrative Supervisor Jan Redford, the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the Department of Public Safety, the construction of the new Soldotna Public Safety Communications Center and the installation of new equipment is finally complete. Dispatchers now have up-to-date communications equipment, ergonomic workstations, and hopefully a static-free environment. Dispatching is difficult enough without being shocked in the ear on a regular basis! Big thanks go to Tammy Goggia for her tireless efforts to make this project, as well as the transition, a huge success.

Trooper Greg Pealatero donned the Safety Bear Suit, and ABWE Trooper Vanliere's wife, Mary, served as Eddie the Eagle during the Homer Winter Parade. ABWE Troopers Vanliere and Bordner drove the trucks, and a great time was had by all. ■



Anchor Point Snow Rondi Parade.



A great time was had by all at the Homer Winter Parade.



Captain Peter Mlynarik's wife Kimberly affixes his new badge.



Dispatcher Carisa Rodriguez trains a youngster how to use 911.



Junior Trooper pajamas made by Dispatcher Glenda Sterling for little Lincoln.



Safety Bear and Eddie Eagle riding in the Homer Winter Parade.



Sergeant Rex Leath's four sons practice their traffic enforcement. The moose was not cited, as it slowed appropriately for the yield sign.



Tpr. Todd Vanliere, Tpr. Travis Bordner and Safety Bear at the Anchor Point Snow Rondi Parade.

# Division of Fire Prevention

By MAHLON GREENE

## The Division of Fire Prevention says goodbye to Director Gary Powell.

Director Powell retired on January 19th after seven and a half years at the helm of the Division. A reception was held at the Loussac Library where many friends and colleagues reminisced about Director Powell's many accomplishments. Director Powell was instrumental in establishing the "Project Code Red" program in rural Alaska. "Project Code Red" has delivered fire protection equipment and training to more than 100 rural villages throughout the State. Director Powell was responsible for the State Statute that requires carbon monoxide alarms in all tenable structures that have fuel-burning appliances.



**Commissioner Walt Monagan congratulates Director Gary Powell on his retirement.**

Before retiring Director Powell also championed the effort to introduce "Safe Cigarette" legislation to the State Legislature. This legislation is currently being considered in both the House and Senate. If enacted this bill would require all cigarettes sold and distributed in the State of Alaska to qualify as "safe cigarettes". "Safe cigarettes" are manufactured to go out unless the smoker is actively puffing on the cigarette. If the cigarette is left unattended it will go out. Many other states have already passed similar legislation. This legislation, if passed, could have a dramatic impact on the number one cause of fire fatalities in Alaska, careless smoking.



**DPS welcomes Director David Tyler to the Division of Fire Prevention.**

The Division of Fire Prevention will be welcoming David L. Tyler as the new Director (State Fire Marshal). Director Tyler is currently Director of Emergency Operations for the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Director Tyler has over 25 years in the emergency service field including fire administration and prevention. Director Tyler will be coming on board at the end of March. Assistant Fire Marshal Steven "Rusty" Belanger is the Acting Director until Director Tyler comes on board.

Administrative Clerk III Pam Brandt from the Fairbanks office has also left the Division with over six years of dedicated service. Pam went above and beyond her duties at the Fairbanks office to deliver fire prevention materials and public education messages to the Interior Region of Alaska. Those that have had the pleasure of working with her throughout the State will miss Pam.

### **Training and Education Bureau**

The Training and Education Bureau has been busy with several classes and conferences. The Bureau also took over operations of the Prism Training Center in Kenai. The City of Kenai who owns the facility



**The Prism Training Center in Kenai.**

entered into a cooperative agreement with the Division of Fire Prevention to operate the facility after the previous operator's contract expired. This facility will allow the Bureau to offer several different classes using state of the art props and classrooms. The Bureau's South Central Training Office has been transferred from Palmer to the Prism facility. Fire Training Specialist Paul Sanchez has transferred to Prism to coordinate training at that facility.

Public Education Coordinator Mahlon Greene was chosen to represent the State of Alaska at the Home Safety Council's "All Ways Safe at Home" conference in Washington D.C. Many new and innovative ideas were discussed to promote home safety.

The Training and Education Bureau set up a vendor booth at the 16th Annual Rural Small Business Conference to provide fire prevention materials and answer fire safety questions from the attendees. The Department of Public Safety played a big role in this year's conference. Besides the vendor booth, Training and Education Supervisor Jodie Hettrick gave a presentation on fire prevention focusing on small businesses in rural Alaska. State Trooper Captain John Glick talked about the VPSO program and Commissioner Walt Monegan was the keynote speaker for the closing luncheon.



**VPSO class #33 enduring poor weather conditions in Sitka.**

(Fire Prevention, continued on page 16)

# Fire Prevention, continued from page 15



**VPSO fire training in Sitka gets hot for class #33 during final testing.**

Fire Training Specialist Steve Schreck and Public Education Coordinator Mahlon Greene traveled to Sitka to proctor the final testing for VPSO Class #33's fire training. VPSO Class #33 did a great job in spite of the poor weather encountered. They will be an asset to their communities.

***Life Safety Inspection Bureau***

The Life Safety Inspection Bureau has been busy with training and office moves. Deputy Fire Marshal II Don Cuthbert is attending a two-week class at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Deputy Fire Marshal I Nathan Rocheleau is currently attending the State Trooper Academy in Sitka. Nathan will be in Sitka for four months. Deputy Fire Marshal I John Bond has been moved into the Palmer office vacated by Fire Training Specialist Paul Sanchez. John will be able to respond to the needs of the Mat-Su Valley more efficiently from the Palmer office.



**Administrative Clerk III Nicole Moore speaking with kids in Juneau on "Kids Safety Day"**

Deputy Fire Marshal I Bob Plumb and Administrative Clerk III Nicole Moore were active in presenting fire safety and prevention at the "Kids Safety Day" luncheon in Juneau on February 10<sup>th</sup>. They handed out prevention materials and talked to the kids about hazards in the home.



**Deputy Fire Marshal Bob Plumb at "Kids Safety Day"**

***Plans Review Bureau*** By John Cawthon  
*New Fire Suppression Technology Comes to Alaska*

The Plan Review Bureau has been busy this past quarter approving a new fire suppression technology for rural schools in Alaska. The Kotzebue school district was recently given permission by the State Fire Marshal to use the Marioff "Hi-Fog", fine water mist fire suppression system in one of its rural schools. ATS Alaska was the contractor who placed the Hi-fog suppression system at Shugnak K-12 School.

Marioff has its home facility in Finland, with the US counterpart located in MD. The Hi-Fog system developed out of the need for lighter and more water conservative sup-

pression systems on cruise ships. Marioff suppression systems are used throughout Western Europe, in motels, historical buildings, and hi-tech centers among others. The system is used by the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC. In the US the System is approved by Factory Mutual Insurance for use in light hazard occupancies. The system in place at Shungank School is the first time a suppression system of this kind has been used in rural Alaska Schools.

The "Hi-Fog" suppression system uses either CO2 or O2 compressed gas in tanks as a propellant. Water is delivered at a much higher pressure with smaller droplet size that increases the surface area of the water, absorbing heat at a higher rate. The end result is a faster suppression or control time and less fire damage.

For a remote school like Shungank, located on Kobuk River in the Northwest Arctic Borough, the system has several advantages over a conventional system. Maintenance costs are lower, less water is used and fire damage can be kept to a minimum. Gas cylinders drive the sprinkler pump, so the system requires no electricity, another advantage for remote schools in Alaska.

According to Chris Korynta, Project Manager ATS Alaska, the system at Shungank School incorporates a gas-driving pump, which requires no electrical power. There are 25 gas storage cylinders and 10,000 gallons of water housed in a 20 by 8 foot insulated container. The school is protected by 323 sprinklers connected to the GPU by stainless steel tubing and fittings. The water and gas supply 30 minutes of protection for a maximum coverage of 9 heads discharging simultaneously. ■



**The Shungank School incorporates a non-electric gas driving pump for its fire protection.**



# Anchorage Judicial Services News

The gift of giving is alive and well at Anchorage Judicial Services as all hands pooled their money yet again to purchase gifts for children who find themselves in need during this holiday season. This is an extraordinary endeavor by Court Services Officers and clerical personnel who enthusiastically participate in this “spirit of Christmas” fund raiser essentially putting toys under the tree where otherwise there would not likely be any.

For Anchorage JS, this is the 11th annual fund raiser, initiated by CSO Semi Sanvig in 1995. Since then, CSO Paul Bulawa has selflessly picked up the ball and run with the program, which generates about \$1,200 each season on average. A few officers unnamed are rather large contributors.

The Office of Children’s Services participates by providing the names of several families who are considered eligible benefactors of the gifts. JS reviews the submittals and essentially votes on the families considered most eligible. The ages of the children are determined to purchase appropriate gift types. The participants from JS (somewhat larger than your average elf) meet on a Saturday and with the enthusiasm of kids in a candy store, go on a shopping spree, later wrapping and addressing the gifts.

Following this effort, JS puts on a grand Christmas luncheon orchestrated with style and tradition by Rebecca Miller, at which point the gifts are turned over to OCS for distribution, but not before the ceremonial picture taking event is done. This year, as



**Standing: Rene Cox, Sgt. Dave Herrell, Sgt. Henry Kozloff, CSO Ed Appellof, CSO Tommie Jaime, CSO Paul Bulawa, CSO Jimmy Rojas, CSO Dan Shepard, Sarah (OCS), Becky (OCS), CSO Tyronne Chisolm, CSO David Klein, CSO Semi Sanvig. Kneeling: Bernita Boyse, CSO Julie Sharkey, Yna Isaako, Rebecca Miller, CSO Patricia Liss.**

in all past years, Sergeant Barry Ingalls (retired) graced us with his presence, joining in on the festivities.

Noteworthy is that participants/contributors never have contact with the benefactors or receive or expect any recognition for their charitable effort. This is mostly an emotion driven undertaking with the only motivation being your imagination as you view the excited expressions on the faces of those opening their gifts.

That being said, this effort is certainly worthy of a boast and a sincere thank you

to those great folks at Anchorage Judicial Services.

A very Happy New Year from the fine folks down here at Anchorage JS.

Other great news from Anchorage Judicial Services includes the addition of five Court Services Officers.

Joining us are Officers Mike Addington, Derrick Hayes, David Klein, Ed Appellof and Jimmy Rojas

Finally, we congratulate our Officer Pat Liss, the recipient of the Court Services Officer of the Year award. ■



**Joining Anchorage Judicial Services are Officers Mike Addington, Derrick Hayes, David Klein, Ed Appellof and Jimmy Rojas.**



**Colonel Grimes presented CSO Pat Liss with the Court Services Officer of the Year award.**

# Division of Statewide Services

## Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory

### *Sulfur Cement for casting in snow*

A new material has been developed in Alaska to obtain casts of footwear and tire track evidence in snow. Jim Wolfe who is working part-time at the Laboratory after retiring has discovered a new substance “Sulfur Cement” that produces strong, high quality castings from snow impressions in less than 20 minutes. The Sulfur Cement is prepared by heating it just before use and is poured in a molten state into the track. Once it hardens a cast of the impression is obtained which can then be used to compare with suspected tires or shoes. Sulfur Cement is an industrial product used as mortar in chemical plants and for concrete testing. This application in Forensic Science is thought to be the first in the world and will be featured in Jim’s snow impression workshops which will be held at the APOA Crime Conference in April. ■



**Jim Wolfe preparing the Sulfur Cement.**



**A casting obtained from a shoe print in snow.**

### *Chris Beheim retired*

Chris Beheim retired in January after four years as Laboratory Supervisor of the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory. He has more than twenty-five years of service with the laboratory stemming back to before construction of the current facility.

Some of his last efforts were helping organize the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) reaccreditation process for the laboratory and sparking the beginning discussions of a need for a new crime laboratory to provide state of the art services into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Kathy Monfreda, Chief of the Bureau of Records and Identification at DPS Headquarters was temporarily placed into Chris’s capacity. In February, Dale Bivins, supervisor for the Latent Fingerprint Section of the laboratory has volunteered as Acting Laboratory Supervisor. Mark Beck, also of the Latent Fingerprint Section, has stepped up to be Acting Section Supervisor. ■



In January 2007 Toni Otten joined the staff of the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory after ten years with the Division of Juvenile Justice. She is assigned to the DPS Criminal Justice Planner, Janna Stewart. Toni’s position as a paralegal is newly created and her responsibilities will include assistance with legal stumbling blocks at the interface of the Laboratory and the Department of Law and the courts, as well as be a watch dog for legal ramifications concerning new legislation and Forensics. Her past contacts and experience will be an asset for dealing with legal issues at the Laboratory. ■



Loraine Eaton joined the staff of the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory in July 2006 as an Administrative Clerk III. She had previously been with the Department of Labor for the past four years in the same capacity. Loraine helps keep track of purchases, processes invoices, oversees time sheets, and orders supplies for the day to day necessities of the laboratory. We wish her a smooth transition as she applies her talents towards the mission and operation of the crime lab. ■

### **ROBOTS TO THE RESCUE !**

Slow but steady progress towards DNA backlog reduction continues with the purchase of 3 robotic units that will assist in automating the DNA extraction process. When validated, the robots will be “instrumental” in improving the efficiency of sample throughput for entry into the DNA Database.



**(Crime lab, continued on page 18)**

## Crime Lab, continued from page 17

### New Technologies at the Crime Lab: Bluestar Latent Bloodstain Reagent

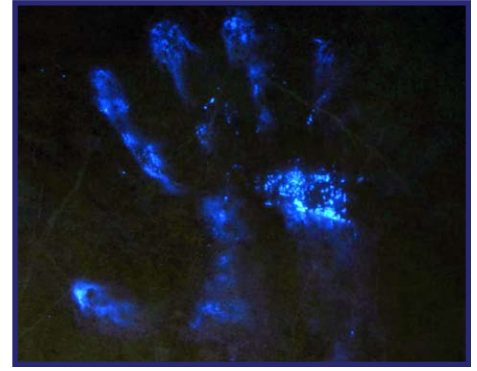
When mixed with the catalyst, and placed in contact with blood, Bluestar emits an intense blue chemiluminescence visible in the dark.

Bluestar is a patented formula that is reported to be totally DNA typing compatible and can be applied numerous times over the same stains.

Bluestar is designed to be used indoors or outdoors, on small or large crime scenes, on fresh, dried, or washed away blood in large or minute quantity. ■



Tile (before) Bluestar application.



Tile (after) Bluestar application.

## In Other News

### Upcoming S.O.M.E. Run Reunion

May 11th and 12th, 2007

After holding on to the memories for more than 10 years, it is time to make some new ones. In 1979 the Alaska State Troopers conducted the first Special Olympics Mileage Event, which later became known as the S.O.M.E. Run. For twelve years this was a Department of Public Safety members' annual event. It was also a major fundraiser for the Alaska Special Olympics.

The idea for the first run started in the head of Tom Clemons. He wanted to set up a running competition, a Trooper vs. APD showdown of sorts. Clemons shared his idea with Dean Bivins and the idea morphed into a long distance relay to raise money for the Alaska Special Olympics.

The first run consisted of 12 Troopers in 1979: John Myers, Auggie Minzloff, John Murphy, Tom Clemons, Dean Bivins, Scott Campbell, John McGhee, Jay Dorst, Ed Stauber, Dan Weatherly, Henry Kozloff and John Glass. The runners found pledges and took leave from work to embark on a 580-mile journey on foot. From the Yukon Bridge on the Haul Road (now known as the Dalton Highway) to Valdez, the Troopers took turns running five-mile legs before passing off a baton. It took the men about three days of non-stop running to make it to their destination. Between sponsors and pledges, S.O.M.E. Run raised 75 thousand dollars for Alaska Special Olympics that year.

A new course was selected every year; the longest S.O.M.E. Run was 1,300 miles. After the first year, each leg of the race was extended to eight miles. There was only one year that at least a dozen runners didn't partake in the event. All in all, 52 DPS employees, to include 'Brown Shirts', 'Blue Shirts' and a Fire Marshal ran in a S.O.M.E. Run. Supporting the runners throughout the years were Special Olympic Coordinators, Lions Club members, DPS employees, spouses and friends.

For 12 years the tradition continued, bringing in more than \$450,000 dollars for the Alaska Special Olympics. The last S.O.M.E. Run was in 1991.

With all the time that has passed, we thought it appropriate to have a reunion for the S.O.M.E. Run runners and all the supporters of the event. Three of the 52 runners are no longer with us. The reunion will also serve as an opportunity to remember Glenn Godfrey, Bill Farber and Ed Stauber.

*We do not have address or contact information for all S. O.M.E. run participants!*

We would like to contact as many participants as possible.

Please forward this reunion information to others as appropriate, or provide us with address information and we will get a reunion notice to them.



(S.O.M.E. Run, continued on page 19)

# THE DPS QUARTERLY

© SPRING 2007

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
SARAH PALIN  
GOVERNOR  
WALT MONEGAN  
COMMISSIONER  
JOHN GLASS  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
COLONEL AUDIE HOLLOWAY  
DIRECTOR AST  
COLONEL GARY FOLGER  
DIRECTOR AWT  
DAVID TYLER, DIRECTOR  
FIRE PREVENTION  
DAVE SCHADE, DIRECTOR  
STATEWIDE SERVICES  
DAN SPENCER, DIRECTOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
TERRY E. VRABEC  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ALASKA POLICE STANDARDS COUNCIL  
DOUG GRIFFIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
BARBARA MASON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

THE QUARTERLY is written by and produced for the employees and friends of the State of Alaska Department of Public Safety. Its purpose is to inform, educate and entertain. It is published four times a year by the Public Information Office.

Reader comments are encouraged and welcome. Reprint permission is granted on all materials not under owner copyright. Please credit this publication, and provide a copy of the publication in which the material is used.

Entries for the next issue are due May 15, 2007. You are invited to contribute to THE QUARTERLY by submitting materials to:

Public Information Office  
THE QUARTERLY, Editor  
5700 East Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
PHONE: 1-(907) 269-5654 or  
FAX to: 1-(907) 338-0276 or  
tim\_despain@dps.state.ak.us



Trooper Massie announces new addition to Talkeetna Post: It's 153 inches long, under 500 pounds 800cc Arctic Cat, born Jan. 5th "Allows him to go places he needs to go in Petersville and surrounding areas rather quickly."

## S.O.M.E. Run, continued from page 18



### When and Where:

May 11th and 12th, 2007 in Wasilla, Alaska.

May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm: No-host get together John Glass's Hanger in Wasilla.

Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served. No host only reservations are \$12.00 per person. Directions to Wolf Lake Dr. can be obtained at: maps.yahoo.com, or we can forward them to you. The Police Memorial Day ceremony will be held at D.P.S Crime Laboratory at 3:00PM.

On this same evening the Mat/Su Walk/or Life, walk-a-thon is occurring. Attendees can participate in this event if they desire. This walk supports Cancer Research.

The Alaska Department of Public Safety complies with Title II of the 1990 Americans With Disabilities Act. This publication is available in alternative communication formats upon request. To make necessary arrangements, contact Tim DeSpain at (907) 269-5549 or the TDD at (907) 269-5094.

May 12th at 6:00 pm: there is a dinner at the Grand View Inn and Suites 2900 East Parks Highway, Wasilla, Ak

Jess Doris will be the emcee for the evening. You can anticipate "toasts" and "roasts". Dinner only reservations are \$36.00 per person.

Pre- registration is appreciated.

Both evening's attire is casual.

Hotel Accommodations are at Grand View Inn and Suites 2900 East Parks Highway in Wasilla.

John Meyers is developing another of his humorous "bear" T-shirts to commemorate the reunion.

### Reunion Registration:

In the registration, please include the following information:

Name Spouse / Guest, Address, Phone number, number of T-shirts desired (along with sizes), number of People Attending, Registration fee, Shirt fee.

Registration is \$48.00 per person. This covers both evening activities.

### Forward registrations to:

John Glass: e-mail: wazfuz@msn.com