

PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS



Bob Taft, Governor

Kenneth L. Morckel, Director

A Legend's Great-Granddaughter Visits

He was a leader. He had vision and courage. He was inspiring.

He became a legend. His name—Colonel Lynn Black.

Colonel Black was the first superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol appointed on September 20, 1933.

Recently, on April 15, 2004, the Patrol Academy was host to Col. Black's granddaughter, Lyn Callison, and great-granddaughter, Korrie Skibinski, for their first visit. The Patrol presented Ms. Callison, whose mother is Betty Black, with a book containing articles regarding their famous Patrol relative.

When looking through the book, Ms. Callison came to a photo of Col. Black with his daughter, Betty, as a young girl dressed in a Patrol uniform just like him. She commented that she still had the uniform Betty was wearing and will send it to the Patrol historians for display in Heritage Hall.

Colonel Black had the privilege of selecting and teaching the first Patrol class to graduate from Camp Perry. Sixty patrolmen were selected and became the first graduates on November 15, 1933.

There was a simple swearing-in ceremony. Colonel Black's words spoken at the ceremony still hold true 71 years later. The then Capt. Black, upon the swearing-in of the first Patrol graduates, said,

“At all times remember that promotion of true safety and the welfare of the people of Ohio should inspire and motivate your work.”



Left: Colonel Lynn Black with daughter, Betty, in 1944. This photo is from a newspaper release taken from a German prisoner during World War II. The photo appeared in a German newspaper and was used as propaganda.

Below: Visit to the Academy, April 15, 2004: (left to right) Col. Paul McClellan, Korrie Skibinski (Black's great-granddaughter), Lyn Callison (Black's granddaughter), Terry Callison (husband), Capt. Andrew Stritmatter and Major Peyton Watts.



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May 2004

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If you have upcoming events or information that you would like to see in the next issue of Public Safety News, send it to Lynne McBee, Office of Communications, Shipley Bldg., 4th floor, or via e-mail at:

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National Emergency Medical Services Week

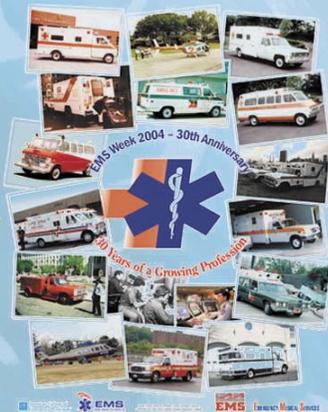
The Ohio Department of Public Safety's EMS division partnered with the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) in honoring the extraordinary group of men and women who serve Ohio's communities as law enforcement, firefighters, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and medics at the sixth Annual EMS Star of Life Awards dinner and ceremony during National EMS Week May 16-22, 2004. In addition, National Emergency Services for Children (EMSC) Day was May 19, 2004.

Nationally, the theme chosen this year was "EMS: There When You Need Us," which focused on the commitment and dedication of the 750,000 EMS providers who provide an essential community service every day. In 2003, Ohio had 39,562 active EMTs and 93,238 active firefighters.

EMS agencies from Ohio's ten pre-hospital regions were selected to receive the new "You Gotta Have Heart" Award, which celebrates and acknowledges the EMS agencies and squad members who responded to cardiac incidents promptly and with exemplary professional action that demonstrated their training and commitment. These award recipients were honored at the EMS Star of Life Awards on May 20, 2004.

Ohio communities held activities honoring paramedics, EMTs, first responders, firefighters, and police. EMS providers also educated the public about injury prevention, safety awareness, defibrillators and medical emergencies.

One of the main emphases this year was helping communities save lives through early defibrillation programs. The good news is that a growing number of communities throughout the country are teaming up with their EMS providers and establishing early defibrillation programs to improve the survival odds of citizens struck by sudden cardiac arrest. By training citizen responders and placing automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in locations where people gather — office buildings, shopping malls, schools, community centers, sports complexes, senior centers, transportation terminals, parks and restaurants — many communities have achieved impressive results, with survival rates averaging 20 percent, and some reaching as high as 74 percent. The best of these programs brings the public and private sectors together.



Sixth Annual Bring Your Child to Work Day

The Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) celebrated the sixth annual Bring Your Child to Work Day on April 22, 2004. Many activities were held throughout the day. Some of the events included troopers showing how dogs help sniff out drugs and bombs and firefighters explaining what to do if a child is ever in a fire. The older participants, who were 15 and close to driving age, found out what they needed to do in order to get a driver's license. The children also got a close inspection of a Patrol helicopter and two ODOT trucks.

Andrea Cambern, anchor from Channel 10, gave the children insight into what it is like to be a television anchor and reporter. West High School, our partner-in-education and adopt-a-school, participated with members from the band, choir and drama club.

All in all, the children had a great day!



FACTS REGARDING SAFETY BELT USE

- According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), of the 32,598 passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in 2002, 59 percent were not wearing a safety belt.
- Among passenger vehicle occupants over four years old, safety belts saved an estimated 14,164 lives in 2002. If ALL passenger vehicle occupants over age four wore safety belts, 21,317 lives (that is, an additional 7,153) could have been saved in 2002.
- Each percentage-point increase in safety belt use represents 2.8 million more people buckling up, approximately 270 more lives saved and 6,400 injuries prevented annually, NHTSA estimates.
- Safety belt usage has increased significantly in the past few years, but more must be done. Safety belt usage in the United States rose to 79 percent in 2003 from 58 percent in 1994.
- Seventy-three percent of the passenger vehicle occupants who were involved in a fatal crash in 2002 and were restrained survived; of those who were not restrained, only 42 percent survived.
- In fatal crashes, 73 percent of all passenger vehicle occupants who were totally ejected were killed. Safety belts are effective in preventing total ejections: only one percent of the passenger vehicle occupants reported to have been using restraints in fatal crashes were totally ejected, compared with 30 percent of the unrestrained occupants.
- In the past 26 years, safety belts prevented 135,000 fatalities and 3.8 million injuries, saving \$585 billion in medical and other costs. If all vehicle occupants had used safety belts during that period, nearly 315,000 deaths and 5.2 million injuries could have been prevented — and \$913 billion in costs saved.

100 Days of Summer Fun and Safety



It seems as though summer would never arrive. After months of frigid temperatures and weeks of bundling up in thick coats and warm gloves, we've shed them for the uniform of summer: a pair of shorts, a pair of flip flops and a cool pair of shades.

Summer is all about enjoying one's self and spending time with family and friends. Unfortunately, it's also the time of year where more motor vehicle crashes, and consequently more injuries and fatalities, occur on Ohio roadways than any other time of the year.

To ensure that our community has a fun, and more importantly, safe summer, the Ohio Department of Public Safety is joining forces with hundreds of safety partners statewide to focus on reducing the number of injuries and fatalities on Ohio roads caused by drinking and driving, high speed and failing to buckle up.

The effort, known as the 100 Days of Summer, starts Memorial Day and runs through the Labor Day holiday.

Officers statewide will be out in force, diligently checking vehicles and talking to both drivers and passengers during these 100 days. They'll be explaining how adopting three simple habits could potentially save a life.

- **Don't drink and drive**

Impaired drivers caused over 34 percent of all highway fatalities in Ohio in 2002. A majority of these drivers (77.7 percent) were male.

- **Maintain a safe speed**

Safety experts all agree that speed kills. Officers, emergency room physicians and EMTs can all graphically share stories about the difference between hitting an object while traveling at 55 miles per hour as opposed to 60-65 miles per hour. A driver can be ejected from a vehicle in a car crash at speeds as low as 25 miles per hour.

- **Always buckle up**

Wearing a seat belt is the simplest, easiest way to protect one's self while riding in a motor vehicle. Yet, nearly a quarter of Ohioans still aren't buckling up. Statistics show that one person is killed on Ohio roads and highways every 6.2 hours. A person is injured every 3.7 minutes.

With everyone's combined efforts, we can make this summer the safest one yet.

As a result of the 2003 mobilization efforts, the state's highest seat belt usage rate in history, 74.7 percent, was recorded.

PeopleSoft Goes into Effect Soon

The vision of ODPS leadership is to have a human resource system that provides employees with self-service capabilities. The PeopleSoft system will help accomplish this goal. PeopleSoft will provide employees with the opportunity to view and change personnel information from their work station.

PeopleSoft will also provide ODPS with a Human Resource Management System that will move to one data source through consolidation of existing human resources systems. The target date for PeopleSoft implementation is June.

EMA Goes AMBER Ohio's Amber Plan

America's Missing, Broadcast Emergency Response

The state of Ohio AMBER Alert Steering committee conducted its first statewide training forum on April 12, 2004, for law enforcement agencies and others involved in assisting with finding missing or abducted children.

The training forum featured an explanation of the difference between abduction and missing children cases, consideration of the victim's view, national AMBER efforts, and child recovery planning, in addition to new tools to enhance investigations and recovery efforts. New tools announced included:

- An AMBER Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) screen with the ability to disseminate photographs, images and relevant information to law enforcement agencies, stakeholders and the public
- The toll-free **1-877-AMBER-OH** phone number will allow Ohioans to report tips to law enforcement
- The Web site www.ohioamberplan.org will provide current AMBER Alert information
- An investigative checklist that assists law enforcement efforts to correctly determine whether an AMBER Alert should be activated
- A brochure explaining how the AMBER Alert plan works with tips to keep Ohio children safe
- A media announcement checklist that provides broadcasters definitive procedures during abduction and missing children cases
- Partnerships with the Ohio Lottery Commission, the Ohio Trucking Association, SBC and Sprint

The Ohio AMBER Plan criteria gives local law enforcement the ability to make decisions at the lowest level to activate the AMBER Alert. For a valid AMBER Alert to be announced the following criteria must be met:

- Law enforcement confirms that the child is under 18 years of age;
- Law enforcement believes the abduction poses a credible threat of immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death to the child;
- There is sufficient descriptive information about the child, the suspect, and/or the circumstances surrounding the abduction to believe that activation of the alert will help to locate the child; and
- A law enforcement agency determines that the child is not a runaway and has not been abducted as a result of a family abduction, unless the investigation determines that the child is in immediate danger of serious bodily harm or death.

The Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee is composed of representatives from the Ohio Emergency Management Agency; Ohio State Highway Patrol; Ohio Department of Transportation; Attorney General's Office – Missing Children Clearinghouse; State Emergency Communications Committee; Federal Bureau of Investigation; Buckeye State Sheriff's Association; Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police; the Ohio Association of Broadcasters, the broadcast industry designee; a victim's advocate; and a representative from a local/regional AMBER plan.

For complete information on Ohio's Amber Alert Plan, visit the Web site listed above. You can also print the Ohio Amber Alert brochure from there.



PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS

Roving Reporter

Q: What is your favorite summer sport and why?

A: "Camping with my family. It gives us the opportunity to spend time together away from home and meet other families who have similar camping interests." **Andy Stritmatter**, OSHP Training Academy

A: "Volleyball because it's fun to have a cookout and then select the teams to play and run off all the food you just ate!!!" **Sarita Bower**, HRM

A: "As of recent, my son joined his school's track team; therefore, track and field is the summertime sport of choice." **Angela Emanuel**, EMS

A: "Football because of the cheerleaders." **Dan Burns**, GHSO

A: "I am an avid mountain bike rider. In Ohio, the sport is a 'three season' sport, but most of the races are in the summer. It is the type of sport one can just 'go wild' in the woods, plus I appreciate nature's beauty." **Micheale Von Ville-Feuillerat**, EMS

A: "To watch? I suppose that would be tennis or high-diving. To participate in? Personally? Only in my dreams! Seriously, though, I do like to bike ride and take walks on nature trails. That's about as active as I'm going to get!" **Kelli Blackwell**, EMA

A: "I'm not in to summer sports. Sorry. I like growing flowers and going to festivals, craft shows, picnics and visiting and enjoying family fun, if that counts." **Kay Shonk**, OSHP Photo Lab

A: "My answer to your question has two parts. Softball used to be my favorite sport. I still play competitive softball three days a week and tournaments every other weekend; however, age and injuries have taken a toll on me physically, so I'm afraid that my days on the softball fields are numbered.

My favorite sport now is golf. After years of struggling to improve my golf scores, I have broken down and started taking lessons and am encouraged by the results thus far. Also, golf is not as painful as softball...unless I lose too many balls!" **Greg Edwards**, BMW

A: "Strolling the boardwalk in Atlantic City, and we all know why!!!!!" **Lana Joiner**, EMA

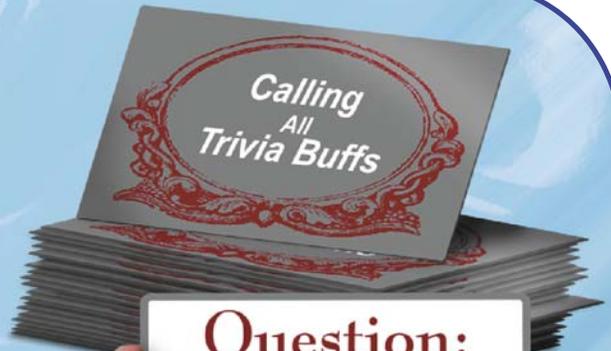
A: "To be perfectly honest, I am not a sports person, but when I lived in Florida every weekend, I would take my kids to the beach to play, and I would watch the surfers. It was so relaxing to watch them; it seemed to me that they had to have a lot of determination, patience and a certain amount of grace. I have tried to watch surfing on television but it is not the same!" **Karen Morefield**, ADM

A: "I enjoy gardening because you can enjoy the fruits of your labor whether vegetables from the garden or the lovely colors from perennial or annual flowers." **Jeff B. DuBois**, ADM

A: "My favorite summer hobbies are fishing and cooking out." **Cliff Banks**, OSHP Tailor Shop

A: "Jet skiing is great! My husband and I just bought one mid-summer last year and can't wait to get it back out on the water as soon as it warms up a bit!

A close second-favorite is baseball...I grew up playing it with my 5 brothers, and we still have 'friends & family' games a couple of times throughout the summer. My brother, Steve, added a 'field of dreams' to his property." **Vicky Smith**, ADM



Question:

It is that time of year to get those bicycles out. What year was the first Tour de France month-long bicycle race?



Send your answers to:
lmcbec@dps.state.oh.us

The first year of the Kentucky Derby was in 1875.

These people knew it:
Kay Phillips (formerly of Louisville!)



WHO? is it?

This person is the commander of the Public Affairs Unit for the Patrol. Who is he?



In the April issue, the person was Ed Duvall, deputy director of the Investigative Unit.

These people knew it:
John Guldin and Karen Takos

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