

# THE REPORT



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Vincit Omnia Veritas

*Maryland Troopers Association, Inc.*

**June 2011**



# *President's Message*

Greetings:

As we move forward in a tough economy, we continue to struggle with meeting financial benchmarks which are necessary to maintain our current level of member benefits. Most recently, the Bank of America has chosen not to renew our affinity program contract effective July 1, 2011. We anticipate replacing the Bank of America card with another card issuer in July. As the MTA will no longer benefit from the Bank of American credit card, we would ask our members to replace that card with the new one as soon as it becomes available. Stay tuned to the listserve for additional details.

Revenues from the TROOPER magazine are also falling off dramatically. In tough times, businesses must cut back on discretionary spending and we understand that. If you know a business person who might be interested in advertising in our magazine, please let the MTA office know. We will make sure that the magazine sales office contacts them immediately. It always helps when we have a name to go with the call. Please continue to send articles in for our Trooper magazine. The articles received for the most recent issue were outstanding and should be arriving at your home very shortly. When something significant happens or you hold an event, please generate an article immediately while details are fresh in your mind and you can still locate photos

I ask each of our members to please update your information with the MTA office as changes occur in your family. Although we get busy meeting the everyday demands of life, it is necessary to take the time to properly look out for those we leave behind should the unexpected happen. While \$45,000 doesn't mean anything to the member who passes, it is very much appreciated by the family they leave behind. In the past, we have had problems with unlisted children and out of date beneficiaries. In a time of grief, the last thing a family needs to do is deal with insurance problems. Your help in this would be very much appreciated.

The Annual Softball Tournament is scheduled for June 29 -30, 2011 at Pinecliff Park in Frederick, Maryland. We hope to see you all there to cheer on your team and meet with old friends. Until next time, I remain...

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Kirk Daugherty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

M. Kirk Daugherty  
President

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The Maryland Troopers Association's June 2011 Executive Board Meeting was called to order on June 21, 2011 at 1700 hours by President Kirk Daugherty. Vice-President Chris Sasse and Executive Director Bob Devers were present. Secretary/Treasurer Vicki Patterson was excused due to illness. Roll call was taken by the Executive Director and the following Lodge Presidents were present:

Tri-County - C. Horner; Lodge 1 - D. Cameron; Lodge 13 - D. Morris; Lodge 14 - R. Ruff; Lodge 15 - A. Michael, Lodge 17 - B. Gill; Lodge 19 - S. Murphy; Lodge 20 - E. Bredenburg; Lodge 40 - O. Artfitch; Lodge 51 - P. Grotte; Lodge 76 - J. McLeary ; Lodge 88 - B. Kloos ; Lodge 96 - Excused. With a quorum present, the President declared the meeting in order.

The President asked the Board to stand in a moment of silence in memory of TFC Shaft Hunter.

The minutes from the May 2011 Executive Board meeting are before you. A motion was made by Tri-County Lodge to adopt the minutes as recorded. The motion was seconded by Lodge 76 and the motion passed.

## President

M. Kirk Daugherty

As a matter of record, I am reporting to the Board of Directors that I exercised my right as President to authorize the expenditure of \$500.00 toward the cost of the reception following TFC Shaft Hunter's funeral.

On May 27, 2011, I attended the funeral for Retired Sgt. Larry Dulin in Stevensville. In my short time at Aviation Division, Larry was my pilot and we became quick friends. He will be missed.

## Vice-President

Christopher Sasse

## Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Vicki Patterson

Nothing to Report

## Executive Director's Report

Robert Devers

Reminder - The MTA Convention will be held at the Carousel Hotel in Ocean City Maryland from September, 29 - October 1, 2011. All members who wish to attend must make your reservations with Marvin Hollinger before September 1, 2011. I believe at this point, all oceanfront rooms have been reserved. Ocean View and Atrium rooms available. Please join us for a great gathering.

The Maryland Troopers Association has partnered with Viridian Power. Viridian provides highly competitive energy rates as a wholesale supplier. If you currently have BGE or PEPCO as your delivery company, Viridian is available to you. Viridian is currently working with the other companies in Maryland for delivery to the rural areas of Maryland. To join, simply click on the link from the MTA website.

The Maryland Troopers Association Bi-Annual Election of Officers will be held beginning in August of this year. Any eligible member in good standing wishing to run for MTA President, Vice-President or Secretary/Treasurer must forward your intention to run for a specific office to the Accounting Firm of Wilner & Scherr, Woodholme Center, 1829 Reisterstown Rd., Suite 420, Pikesville, Md. 21208 no later than August 1, 2011. Candidate produced material for distribution to members at the time of balloting is limited to one page and must be directed to the MTA Executive Director and received at the MTA office no later than August 15, 2011. Ballots for contested races will be mailed to the general membership on September 1, 2011. All ballots must be returned postmarked no later than September 19, 2011 and received by the Accounting Firm no later than September 23, 2011. Ballots will be counted on September 27, 2011. The newly elected officers will assume their terms in office on October 1, 2011 at the Executive Board meeting held at the MTA Convention.

We received a very nice thank you letter from Sgt. Steve Hassett expressing his appreciation to the MTA Executive Board for making his pre-retirement celebration such a wonderful event for him and his family. He indicated that his health has declined and that he must retire from the MSP on July 1, 2011. Our prayers will be with Steve and his family as he continues to battle this rare form of cancer.

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Lodges with outstanding balance - 13 - 17 - 19 - 76

We also received a thank you note from the Stringfellow family thanking us and the MSP for our participation and support in preparations for retired TFC. John Stringfellow's memorial services.

## National Troopers Coalition Liaison

Charles Horner

I sent condolences on behalf of the MTA to the family and co-workers of Trooper Englehardt, Massachusetts State Police. Ellen Engelhardt, a Massachusetts State Police trooper who was paralyzed in a drunken driver crash in 2003, has died. Engelhardt was severely injured and paralyzed when her parked cruiser was rear-ended by a drunken teenager who was going about 90 mph on Route 25 in Wareham on July 26, 2003. "Since suffering the tragic injuries inflicted upon her in the line of duty by a drunk driver, Trooper Engelhardt has been an inspiration to every member of this Department for the courage, grace and dignity with which she lived," the State Police said in a statement. William P. Senne, of Wayland, who was 18 at the time of the crash, was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison after pleading guilty to charges of drunken driving and driving to endanger in 2005. Engelhardt was a 23-year veteran of the state police at the time of the crash. She is survived by a daughter, Lora.

I received a check from Dennis Hallion (NTC Executive Director) and William Staviski (NTC Treasurer) at TFC. Shaft Hunter's funeral. The check was presented to TFC. Hunter's father, Sherman Hunter.

National Troopers Coalition Picnic 2011 Hosted by New York with the Assistance of New Jersey.

When: Monday September 12th from 11am to 7pm.

Where: Pier 92 off the West Side of Highway to Manhattan. The Address of Pier 92 Is 711 12th Avenue in New York City.

Ticket Price: the Cost Will Be \$91.10 per person for NTC members to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of the terrorist attack on New York city. Your checks should be made out to the NTC Charitable Foundation. In the memo line please write NTC Picnic. Send Your Checks to

NYSTPBA, 120 State Street 2nd Floor, Albany, New York, 12207. Please include your return address so we can send you your ticket. In case there is a problem with your payment, please include a telephone number in which you can be reached.

Venue: on this pier the top deck is an open air deck. The second level is an indoor deck (should we have inclement weather) with rest room facilities and air conditioning. These decks are massive in size and accommodate 1800 people on each deck. There will be no sales at the door. There will be no further sales after Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. This event is for active and retired State Police and Highway Patrol Agencies. You must have your police ID and your NTC Pass to get in the door. Your NTC Pass will be sent to you upon receiving payment.

Parking: It is strongly encouraged that you do not drive to the picnic site. There will be a nominal fee for parking at surrounding parking lots and garages, but no parking at Pier 92. It is suggested that you use a different form of transit such as taxi, subway, Weehawken Water Taxi (From New Jersey), to get to the picnic site.

Coming from the South - New Jersey (NJSP) Is setting up a Bus Service from the Meadowlands Arena to Pier 92.

Hotels - Rather than staying directly in New York City, You should look at the hotels in Weehawken, New Jersey, Tarrytown, New York, and other nearby areas. That particular week is Fashion Week in New York City and the hotel rates in NYC could double or triple in cost.

Food and Drink - to be announced.

Music Entertainment - There will be a DJ and a band for your audible entertainment.

Vendors - There will be a cost per table for each table you require. No tents will be necessary as you will be in doors away from the elements of wind and rain. You will not be permitted to bring your own tables or chairs due to Union Regulations at the Pier.

After Events - a Club Is located directly across the street from the Pier for your after Picnic Enjoyment. There Is a Cigar Lounge in the Club as well.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**By-Laws:** S. Murphy - Nothing to Report.

**Finance:** J. Diggs - On June 7, 2011 the Finance Committee held its monthly meeting at the MTA Office. In attendance were Finance Chairperson Jay Diggs, Bill Bernard, Earl Bredenburg, Pete Edge, Marvin Hollinger, Bob Kirk, Rick Norman, Mike Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Patterson and Executive Director Bob Devers.

**MEETING DATES:** July 6, 2011 10am @ the MTA Office; August 3, 2011 10Am @ the MTA Office

### STATE OF THE MTA:

1. UBS Account – \$558,131

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Board approved May's Finance Report.
2. The 2011 Convention. – The Convention Flyer is available on line. Rooms are filling up.
3. Reminder! Our Affinity Program with Bank of America will end June 30, 2011. Naturally, we were stunned that Bank of America declined to renew our contract. As such, we are encouraging every MTA member currently possessing an MTA Credit Card to switch over to the new affinity card for the MTA once the new program is established. We're confident you will be able to transfer any balances to the new card and it's our hope you will even save some money in the process. Stay tuned for more information.
4. Open enrollment for the dental plan concluded. There were a very limited number of transactions.
5. If your Lodge hasn't made its \$100 donation to the Steve Hassett Fund please see the Secretary/Treasurer before you leave tonight.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Requests for Donations:
  - A. Motion was made, seconded and passed to donate \$50 to the Pikesville VFD.

### 2. FORM 106 REVIEWS:

- A. Lobbyist Bernard Shaw's Form 106 for May 2011 in the amount of \$112.30 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.
3. The Treasurer's Report for May 2011 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Time Start: 1000 hours Time Ended: 1200 hours

1. We were all saddened by the tragic loss of TFC Hunter. The MTA donated \$500 towards the reception following his funeral.
2. Retired troopers and Lodge Presidents are reminded about getting bricks for the MSP Walkway. Applications can be obtained through Flo Johnson, Retirement Coordinator, 410-653-4342 or fjohnson@mdsp.org. These bricks make great birthday presents. If you want to honor a former trooper this is a great way to do so.
3. Our prayers go out to their families as we mourn the loss of former troopers, Cpl. Mike Gavel and Sgt. Larry Dulin.
4. We send get well wishes to retirees, John Shelly and Larry Holcolme. Give them a call.

The Family of John Stringfellow asked that donations be made to the MTA in his honor. We would like to acknowledge receiving such donations in his behalf.

The President called for a motion to accept the Finance Committee report as presented. The motion was made by Lodge 76, seconded by Tri-County Lodge and passed.

**Legislative/Political Action:** Bernie Shaw - I have attended a number of fundraisers since the last meeting. Bernie distributed his complete report from the 2011 Legislative Session and discussed several bills which did impact the membership. To avoid a lengthy repeat of the information provided in earlier reports, a complete copy of the report is available on the MTA website for anyone interested in

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reading the entire report. The new salary structure has been published for sworn personnel and civilian personnel will receive a \$750 bonus paid over 26 pays in the next fiscal year.

**Legal Advisory** - Gary Tracey introduced James Nichols who briefed the Board on recent case heard by the courts involving a trooper seeking a disability for stress brought on by an administrative investigation and process. The court held that the disability retirement should be denied citing that the stress of the investigation was brought on by the trooper's own misconduct.

James Nichols also introduced Rebecca Smith who will be assisting him with the MTA caseload. Rebecca has worked with James for the past several years as a law clerk and is now an attorney with the firm.

**Minority Affairs** - Ron Ruff - Nothing to Report

**Scholarship:** Brian Kloos - Lodge Presidents are reminded to get your checks for scholarships into the office by next meeting.

**Retirees:** Dave Cameron - Nothing to Report.

**SLEOLA** - B. Gill - The Secretary for SLEOLA is no longer Sean Kile as he retired effective June 1, 2011. SLEOLA will be moving forward, consistent with their by-laws to fill this position. Anyone eligible and interested in this position should attend the next SLEOLA meeting.

Brian Kloos asked Brian Gill why SLEOLA member's deductions for prescription drug coverage was \$4.00 more than other State employees. Brian was not familiar with that and said that he would check into it. Nothing should have changed this year in Rx coverage for SLEOLA members.

Dave Cameron asked what the fair share cost was for sworn personnel who are not members of SLEOLA. Chris Sasse indicated that the amount was about \$6.75 bi-weekly. Normal dues for SLEOLA members will be \$10.00.

## LODGE REPORTS

Lodge 15 - A. Michael - We are still working on the memorial for troopers from Cecil County and should be done

some time in July. I will keep you posted.

The Lodge elections will be held to elect a new slate of officers this Monday.

Lodge 20 - E. Bredenburg - The Christmas for Kids Golf Tournament will be held on at the Links in Gettysburg on Wednesday, August 10, 2011. Flyers have been distributed. Great course at a reduced rate. Come join us and support a very worthwhile cause.

Our August 2011 meeting will be our annual crab feast.

Lodge 76 - J. McLeary - At last month's Lodge 76 meeting, Herb Weiner spoke about the current litigation in Baltimore concerning retiree benefits. He indicated that the FOP has spent a considerable amount trying to protect retiree benefits for Baltimore Police. If the city is successful at reducing coverages, the State will surely be close behind.

Joe also presented a scholarship check from Lodge 76 to Zachary Smith. Ms. Sheri Smith accepted on behalf of her son.

## OLD BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

Earl Bredenburg noted that Howard Pleines will be retiring from the Maryland Retirement and Pension System effective in July, 2011. He made a motion that the Board of Directors approve the production of a plaque for Mr. Pleines thanking him for his support throughout the years. President Daugherty noted that Howard Pleines has always been very supportive and helpful to the MTA. The motion was seconded by Lodge 88 and passed. Howard's replacement is Ann Gawthrop from Legislative Services.

Mo Krome reported that the current unaudited balance of Retirement investments is \$36.7 billion. This represents an 18% increase for this fiscal year.

Mo Krome noted that he is currently working with Lanny Holcombe who was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. Lanny was concerned that he had everything in place as necessary because his situation is complicated by the fact

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that his wife has alzheimer's disease and is currently being cared for by his daughter in Georgia. His situation shows the importance to have your affairs in order. Please make sure that you have your wills, powers of attorney as necessary and advanced directives in place.

Kirk noted that he would like to invite Colonel Sheridan and Don Lewis to the convention without any objection from the Board. Kirk asked that a letter be sent as soon as possible so that they can put it in their calendars.

## GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

At 6:50 P.M. a motion to adjourn was made in honor of TFC. Shaft Hunter by Lodge 76, seconded by Lodge 88 and passed. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday July 19, 2011 @ 1700 hours at the MTA Office in Pikesville, Maryland.

## Chesapeake Investment Advisors Martin Knight

If you have questions concerning the DROP (or any other investment issues), give Marty a call (410-810-0735). The best time to do the research is before your exit-date so very little time is lost reinvesting your assets. Marty can help your transition from active State Trooper to retired investor. And rest assured, he will always put your financial interests first.

Martin Knight  
Chesapeake Investment Advisors  
106 Spring Ave., Chestertown MD 21620  
410-810-0735  
Mknight@chesadvisors.com



**2011 MTA CONVENTION**  
**Carousel Hotel**  
**11700 Coastal Highway**  
**OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND**  
**September 29 - October 1, 2011**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone – Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**AVAILABLE CONVENTION PACKAGES**

	<u>3 day (Thursday Check-In)</u>	<u>2 day (Friday Check-In)</u>
Ocean Front	<input type="checkbox"/> \$350.00	Not Available
Atrium & Ocean View	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300.00
All Other Rooms	<input type="checkbox"/> \$290.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275.00

All packages: Check In time 3:30 P.M. / Check Out time: Sunday 12 noon

**Total Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

All room reservations must be made by contacting Marvin Hollinger at: (410) 259-5143 to determine room preference availability. Room assignments and availability will be made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations must be received **no later than September 1, 2011**. When your room preference is confirmed, Please complete this registration form mail form and payment to: **MARVIN HOLLINGR, MARYLAND TROOPERS ASSOCIATION, 1300 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, PIKESVILLE, MD 21208**. Checks made payable to MTA must be received within 10 days of reservation confirmation to hold room reservations.

There will be a Catered Theme Picnic on Saturday Night (Two tickets per room are included – Additional Adults are \$17.00 & Children under 12 are \$8.50) – Time to be announced. Menu will include Barbequed Spare Ribs, Fried Chicken, Red Bliss Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Corn on the Cob, Baked Beans, Corn Muffins and Assorted Desserts. Soda, Coffee & Tea. Cash Bar will be available at the picnic.

Hospitality Room will be open on Thursday, Friday & Saturday nights from 5:00 PM to 12 Midnight

Activities – Movie Passes, Mini-Golf, Ice Skating, Ice Cream Bar, Moon Bounce, Indoor Pool

Maryland Troopers Foundation Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, September 29, 2011

Rooms will go fast, so make your reservations early. Join us to renew old friendships, make new ones, swap war stories and just enjoy all that Ocean City has to offer at a very reasonable price.