

THE REPORT



Vincit Omnia Veritas

Maryland Troopers Association, Inc.

May 2011



President's Message

Greetings:

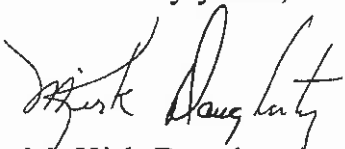
It is with profound sadness that I must begin my message this month with news of another Maryland State Police line of duty death. Over this past weekend, Trooper First Class Shaft Hunter of the Waterloo Barrack lost his life in a motor vehicle collision on Rt. 95 in Laurel while in pursuit of a motorcycle. Our deepest sympathies go out to his family, friends and co-workers as they cope with this terrible loss. We will again gather to lay another fallen hero in his final resting place. May the good Lord bless and keep his loved ones in this most difficult time.

Over the past month, we have gathered to remember our fallen heroes in ceremonies throughout the state and nation. These ceremonies serve to remind us of the sacrifice that our brothers and sisters have made in service to others, to maintain our freedom and our way of life. We remember our friends and co-workers for what they accomplished in their lives and wonder what could have been if they were not taken from us so soon. This year's ceremony at HQ included the unveiling of TFC Wesley Brown's plaque on the memorial by his family and members of his youth group YMEYM. To witness the emotions of his group members was especially poignant. We trust that his memory will continue to guide them into adulthood.

This year's Maryland Trooper Association scholarship awards have just been announced by the Scholarship Committee. As always, we receive far more applications than we can possibly fund. All of the applicants demonstrated outstanding academic achievement which makes the task of choosing between applicants especially difficult. I would like to thank the committee members for their hard work in the review process and to congratulate all the winners. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all of our applicants for submitting applications this year and hope that each of you find success in reaching your academic goals.

This month's NTC report highlights the pitfalls and scrutiny given to social media. Active members are urged to read the information and apply such measures as may be necessary to avoid problems in the future. Until next time, I remain...

Fraternally yours,


M. Kirk Daugherty
President

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The Maryland Troopers Association's May 2011 Executive Board Meeting was called to order on May 17, 2011 at 1700 hours by President Kirk Daugherty. Vice-President Chris Sasse, Secretary Treasurer Vicki Patterson and Executive Director Bob Devers were present. Roll call was taken by Secretary Treasurer Vicki Patterson and the following Lodge Presidents were present:

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

The minutes from the April 2011 Executive Board meeting are before you. A motion was made by Lodge 1 to adopt the minutes as recorded. The motion was seconded by Lodge 96 and the motion passed.

President

M. Kirk Daugherty

I attended the Tri-County Lodge meeting in April. I would like to thank Vice-President Sasse for representing me at the Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens Fallen Heroes Ceremony earlier this month. I would also like to thank Bob Devers for representing me at the celebration for Sgt. Steven Hassett yesterday.

Vice-President

Christopher Sasse

I attended the Fallen Heroes Ceremony at Dulaney Valley which was very well attended.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Vicki Patterson

Nothing to Report

Executive Director's Report

Robert Devers

I have passed out copies of web pages to each lodge president. Could you please update the information on the

page and return the completed form to me this evening. I am in the process of putting together the new website and I would like to use current information.

National Troopers Coalition Liaison

Charles Horner

NTC VEHEMENTLY OPPOSES "RAPPER" 'S VISIT TO WHITE HOUSE

In recent days, there has been much outrage over the presence of a "rapper" that was invited to the White House. It is appalling that the President, the First Lady and the Administration would allow this so called poet to not only be invited to the White House, but allow him to engage with other public officials to tout his personal beliefs during this, one of the most revered of times in our nation's capitol, National Police Week.

On May 12, 2011, the President invited the Officers of the Top Cops Awards Program into the Rose Garden to celebrate and honor their heroic efforts. Some of these efforts involved shootouts with notorious gang members, armed robbers, and other domestic terrorists. All of these officers survived and were greeted warmly at the White House. What a hypocritical message to have invited a person whose lyrics celebrate the lives of assassins. They are coward cop-killers, who gunned down two of our finest, Trooper Werner Foerster of the New Jersey State Police and Officer Danny Faulkner of the Philadelphia Police Department.

These individuals were convicted by our legal justice system and deserve no recognition for anything other than being judged as cop killers.

The fact that this person has provided monies to the Chicago area does not supersede or buy him a free pass to portray these murderers as heroes. Exposing these lyrics to our children in the community sends the message that allows for the unfortunate empowerment of these murderers. We must be mindful of what the interpretation of these "mindless songs" portray to our kids.

We would like to see a clear message from the White House that the ultimate sacrifice of our brave men and women in American law enforcement will never be forgotten. 152 Law Enforcement Officers were killed in the line of duty in 2010. Of these, many were killed in violent gun battles. We will be

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reading the names of these heroes on the evening of May 13, 2011. At this Candlelight Vigil in Washington, DC, our United States Attorney General Eric Holder will be in attendance representing the White House. We need our leaders in government to practice what they preach.

NTC Website Access:

Gentlemen, after numerous inquiries from active and retired members of various state Associations regarding access to the "Troopers Only" section of the website, any further requests for access will be forwarded to your home Association. Some Associations do represent their retirees; some require their retirees to pay dues. Without having a database of all 40,000 troopers (plus retirees), it is difficult to determine the validity of these requests. When verified by your Association, please feel free to provide the log in and password to that member.

SMYRNA, Tenn. – May 8, 2011

A 36-year-old Tennessee state trooper has died of injuries he suffered in a Saturday crash in Smyrna, according to the highway patrol.

Trooper Andy Wall died shortly after being transported to Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Wall and Trooper Buddy Head were riding their THP motorcycles on Sam Ridley Parkway in front of Stonecrest Hospital in Smyrna. The two motor patrol units were escorting U.S. Air Force Thunderbird pilots to an air show. A crash occurred around 2 p.m. involving three vehicles and the two state troopers. The accident remains under investigation.

Trooper Wall was assigned to the THP Nashville District and worked primarily out of Dickson County with the Motorcycle Unit. He graduated from the THP Training Academy in 2004. His father, Tom Wall, is a former sheriff of Dickson County. "We have lost one of Tennessee's finest in a tragic accident. I urge Tennesseans to keep his family in their thoughts and prayers," said Department of Safety and Homeland Security Commissioner Bill Gibbons in a news release. "We are all saddened by Trooper Wall's death today," said Lt. Col. Case Cunningham, Thunderbirds commander and leader in a news release. "We hold a deep respect and appreciation for local law enforcement professionals, and our thoughts and prayers are with Trooper Wall's family and his fellow state troopers."

Head was transported to Stonecrest Hospital and was treated and released with minor injuries.

Officials Warn Facebook and Twitter Increase Police Vulnerability Published May 10, 2011 | FoxNews.com May 10, 2011:

Phoenix detective CJ Wren gives his presentation at the Social Media, Internet and Law Enforcement conference in Chicago. In the midst of what officials call an "appalling" and "alarming spike" in attacks on law enforcement around the country, officials are warning the success of sites such as Facebook and Twitter has made police even more vulnerable. While police have for some time used social networking sites to identify and investigate suspected criminals, now criminals are using such sites to identify and investigate law enforcement officers, including undercover police. In addition, hostage-takers and suspects who barricade themselves in buildings are monitoring social media to track police movements in real time, and gang members are launching their own surveillance operations targeting police.

Social media "will be used against you," Lauri Stevens -- organizer of this week's Social Media, Internet and Law Enforcement conference in Chicago -- promised police officials who have gathered from across the country and overseas to swap ideas over harnessing the changing media environment and protecting against its dangers.

After police first discovered a DVD inside a suspect's car in October, Phoenix authorities issued a "security alert," telling law enforcement officials that officers were being "targeted" on Facebook and that posting photographs and other personal information on social media "may create serious officer safety consequences."

It also may create serious safety consequences for the friends and family, including young children, of officers who appear in many of the photos on DVDs recovered by authorities, conference attendees were told Tuesday.

"They have brought those dangers right to their families," said Phoenix detective CJ Wren, noting that when officers create Facebook or Twitter accounts they need to realize, "It's my life, it's my family's life." "Social networking is supposed to be fun ... but you've got to take that extra step now when you are in this business," he told law enforcement

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officers. "You can have your Facebook locked down as tight as you possible can, but if your friend's not doing it, you're compromised."

As for the DVDs, Phoenix police still don't have a full handle on who produced them or how many were distributed, Wren said. The investigation continues.

Meanwhile, an official from the Milwaukee, Wis., police department noted that some "criminal elements" now monitor social media while they're in the middle of holding a hostage or barricading themselves inside a building. "It used to be that all you did was cut the power to the structure where the person was barricaded and you didn't have to worry about it anymore," said Anne Schwartz, the Milwaukee police department's communications director. "But now, we're finding that people who are taking hostages, people that are barricaded, people that want to kill the police are looking at the Twitter sites, they're looking at Facebook ... because the media like to get on and talk about things as they are happening."

Schwartz cited the case of a December standoff on Interstate 94 in Wisconsin that lasted hours, as a gunman who allegedly stole an SUV refused to surrender. Local news outlets aired live video of armed police hiding behind a door and aired live video of snipers getting into what was supposed to be a secret position, according to Schwartz. All of that information can end up on social media almost instantaneously.

"The element of surprise is everything, and social media is taking away the element of surprise that we need to keep people safe when we have tactical situations," Schwartz said. Officials also mentioned other ways social media can hurt law enforcement personnel. A gang expert from Albany, N.Y., said gangs in his area are actively conducting "surveillance" operations on police using their mobile devices, and many officials noted that sites like Facebook and Twitter can turn private videos into "viral" sensations. Nick Selby, a Dallas-area police officer and information security analyst, reflected the threat this way: "I work in Texas. I assume everybody has a gun, [and] I assume everybody has some kind of personal recording device on them."

Wren, the Phoenix detective, worried that such videos add public-perception pressures to police departments and their officers, who could end up being "just a little less effective"

as a result.

"When you start worrying about what the perception is, you may second guess that extra second, and that could be an officer safety issue," Wren said.

Despite all the concerns over officer safety, though, organizers of the Chicago conference -- dubbed the "SMILE conference" -- urged law enforcement officers to look at social media more as a tool than a threat.

"It isn't all roses, but hopefully you'll become convinced that the good outweighs the potential negative," Stevens told the police officials in attendance. "It's a huge force multiplier, especially in these economic times where you're losing officers or you're not replacing them as they quit. ... This is a way to make yourselves bigger."

Throughout the conference, officers shared stories of how using social media benefited their departments. Billy Grogan, the chief of police in Dunwoody, Ga., outside Atlanta, often posts messages and information to his department's Twitter and Facebook accounts. He said doing that helps gain community trust by establishing daily interactions with the public and by reflecting a policy of transparency. He said using social media also keeps the public informed about events unfolding in their community, and it offers a way to "debunk" myths or rumors and promote "feel good type stories." Other officials cited similar benefits, and Schwartz, the Milwaukee communications director, called social media a "vital part" of her "toolkit."

Judging from the SMILE conference, departments in the United Kingdom are at the forefront of using social media to benefit community policing. As an example of the benefits, Phil Knox, an inspector with the Northern Ireland Police, said that after his department reported on Facebook that police would be on patrol during a federal holiday, a woman posted a thank-you online. In her post, the woman said that "seeing you about" gave her "peace of mind." But, Knox noted, the woman hadn't actually seen any police. Instead, there was a "perceived visibility" based on what was posted on social media, he said. Still, a top police official from Scotland, Gordon Scobbie, said concerns raised for police at the conference were "a really, really good wake up call," and he would be taking those warnings back to the United Kingdom with him.

In the United States, many police departments are now

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contemplating what policies they should -- and legally can -- put into place when it comes to officers' use of social media.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

By-Laws: S. Murphy - Excused

Finance: R. Devers for J. Diggs - On May 5, 2011 the Finance Committee held its monthly meeting at the MTA Office. In attendance were Finance Chairperson Jay Diggs, Earl Bredenburg, Pete Edge, Marvin Hollinger, Bob Kirk, Walt Mills, Mike Smith and Executive Director Bob Devers.

MEETING DATES: June 7, 2011 @ 10am and July 6, 2011 @ 10am at the MTA Office

STATE OF THE MTA:

1. UBS Account – \$542,117

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Board approved April's Finance Report.
2. The 2011 Convention. – The Convention Flyer is available on line so make sure you sign up.
3. Reminder! Our Affinity Program with Bank of America will end June 30, 2011. The Finance Committee will be examining all options for another MTA Affinity program.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Requests for Donations - None
2. FORM 106 REVIEWS:
 - A. Lobbyist Bernard Shaw's Form 106 for April 2011 in the amount of \$695.39 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.
 - B. Executive Director Bob Dever's Form 106 for April 2011 in the amount of \$48.76 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.
 - C. Executive Secretary Sheri Smith Form 106 for April 2011 in the amount of \$30 for renewal of her notary was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.

3. The Treasurer's Report for April 2011 was reviewed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this report.
4. Open Enrollment –Open enrollment is April 26 through May 26, 2011 which coincides with the State's open enrollment period.
5. Retired trooper 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.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Time Start: 1000 hours - Time Ended: 1230 hours

The President called for a motion to accept the Finance Committee report as presented. The motion was made Lodge 96, seconded by Lodge 1 and passed.

Legislative/Political Action: Bernie Shaw - Nothing to Report.

Legal Advisory -James Nichols for G. Tracey - One case involving a violation of LEOBR. In the event this case moves forward, we will file for a show cause.

Kirk congratulated Mr. James Nichols on the recent birth of their son.

Minority Affairs - Ron Ruff - Nothing to Report

Scholarship: Sheri Smith for Brian Kloos - The packets have been received from the members of the Scholarship Committee. We have made the calculations and the following awards will be made:

2011 MTA Scholarship Awards

Lodge	Recipient	Award
1	James Wiser	\$500.00
1	Tyler Wiser	\$500.00

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13	Phillip Perry	\$500.00
14	Rachel Herron	\$500.00
14	Rashad Ruff	\$500.00
15	Brandi Smith	\$1000.00
17	Katherine Alt	\$500.00
17	Kayla Nelson	\$500.00
19	Brandon Cedar	\$500.00
19	Mary Luber	\$500.00
20	Lauren Rosso	\$1000.00
40	Nicholas Hagar	\$1000.00
51	Allison Pettyjohn	\$500.00
51	Stephen Hassett	\$500.00
76	Kayla Jones	\$500.00
76	Zachary Smith	\$500.00
88	Alexandra Turano	\$500.00
88	Julie Lewis	\$500.00

Member Scholarships

Member	Award
Jeffrey Jones	\$250.00
Jeffrey Thomas	\$250.00

Congratulations to all of our winners. As always, all of the applications were very good.

Retirees: Dave Cameron - I attended the MSPAA Trooper of the Year award luncheon. This year's Trooper of the Year is TFC. Robert G. Iman, Jr. who is assigned to C.V.E.D. Congratulations to TFC Iman for his outstanding work and for receiving this honor.

SLEOLA - B. Gill - Bargaining is over and went relatively poorly this year. One bright spot was that the State failed to bargain healthcare this session and as a result, employees represented by the SLEOLA bargaining unit will not have an

increase in co-pays this year.

LODGE REPORTS

Lodge 1- D. Cameron - Elections will be held in the very near future. Any member of Lodge 1 interested in running for a lodge office should contact Dave Cameron.

Lodge 15 - A. Michael - The Lodge elections will be held to elect a new slate of officers effective July 1, 2011.

The lodge will hold its annual crab feast in Rising Sun on September 25, 2011.

The Lodge 15 Bull Roast is being planned for October 22, 2011 at Fair Hill.

I attended a memorial service at El Dorado for fallen officers hosted by the Eastern Shore Police Association.



Lodge 17 - B- Gill - We held our first Bull Roast and it was deemed a success. We are still selling \$5 raffle tickets for a LED TV, X-Box and Blue-Ray Player. Anyone interested in purchasing or selling the tickets, please see me.

Lodge 51 - P. Grotte - I would like to express our appreciation to the other Lodge Presidents and the MTA for your support of the Stephen Hassett Celebration. I attended the celebration with our Executive Director representing the MTA. Stephen was very appreciative for everything he received and for the outpouring of support.

Lodge 88 - D. Seiler for B. Kloos - Just wanted to let

everyone know that construction of the new Hagerstown Barrack is progressing well. I have posted a few pictures on the Lodge 88 website.



OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

The Maryland Troopers Foundation Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 30, 2011 at the Ocean City Golf and Yacht Club. Cost is \$125 per golfer or \$500 for a gold sponsorship. We are asking each lodge to consider at least a hole sponsorship for this event.

Bob Devers noted that he has been contacted by Perone Communications requesting an interview with a Maryland State Police employee or retiree for a PSA he is producing for the National Conference of Public Employees Retirement Systems. They would like to highlight a trooper who has had a significant impact in a citizens life where both could be interviewed. The PSA will concentrate on what drew the employee to public service. Lodge 13 indicated that they would pose this request to Sgt. Daniel McLain who recently saved the life of child during a roadside birth.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

The MSP Fallen Heroes will be held tomorrow morning at 11:00 AM at HQ. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Pikesville Armory.

At 6:19 P.M. a motion to adjourn was made by Lodge 1, seconded by Lodge 20 and passed. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday June 21, 2011 @ 1700 hours at the MTA Office in Pikesville, Maryland.

For all your cruise and land based vacation needs contact Dale and Donna Petty, your ACC Certified cruise specialist. We are an independently owned and operated full service travel agency and are here to help you plan your next vacation! We give all MTA members an on board credit to be used in any way you like in addition to all credits and amenities offered by the cruise lines! Sign up for email alerts at www.ChangesInLatitudeCruises.com for an additional credit on your first sailing! Have a question? Email us at Latitudecruises@aol.com or call us at 386-668-9562.

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	[] \$350.00	Not Available
Atrium & Ocean View	[] \$325.00	[] \$300.00
All Other Rooms	[] \$290.00	[] \$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.