

Delaware State Police Museum and Educational Center



P.O. Box 430
Dover, DE 19903

<http://www.dspmuseum.org>

Museum Director - Major Kevin P. McDerby, (Ret.) 411
Newsletter Editor - Debbie Geiser
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Visit the
Delaware State Police
Museum website

<http://www.dspmuseum.org>

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From the Director's Desk

Major Kevin P. McDerby (Ret.) 411



1973 Plymouth Fury III - Troop 8 Vehicle

Additions to the Museum

By now, most of our followers know that the museum has a new display item. We were able to procure a 1973 Plymouth Fury from the Ronnie Williams Foundation. This addition is noteworthy for several reasons.

Foremost, the '73 Plymouth was the 50th Anniversary vehicle of the Delaware State Police.

The addition to the museum was made possible because of the generosity of some significant supporters. The benefactors are the Delaware State Troopers Association (DSTA), B & F Towing and the Delaware Antique Police Car Association. The DSTA donated the entire purchase price of the vehicle. Their donation was made in honor of Master Corporal Ronald G. Williams, Jr. Ronnie epitomized what it means to wear the uniform of a Delaware State Trooper. He was also a significant leader within the Troopers' Association. The motto of the Ronnie Williams Foundation is, *"Passing on a legacy of Honor to future generations"*. The DSTA donation keeps that legacy alive.

Ronnie Williams was killed in an off duty traffic accident in 2002. Prior to his untimely death, Ronnie restored the 1973 Plymouth using the color scheme of an "ASAP" car from that period. The ASAP program targeted those suspected of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The original DSP ASAP vehicle was a 1972 Plymouth.



Ronnie Williams' ASAP Vehicle

To be historically correct the vehicle had to be restored to the paint scheme of a 1973 patrol cruiser. The vehicle is an authentic police car equipped with a four-barrel carburetor and a 440 cubic inch engine. Originally, the cruiser was owned by the Montana Highway Patrol.



Students at the DelCastle Technical High School Auto Body Program accepted the refurbishment project as a class assignment. Under the leadership of instructor Tony Tiberi, the students began the process of recreating a replica of one of the most beautiful patrol vehicles in the history of the DSP. The partnership not only benefitted the museum but it acted as a bonding agent between the student body and the police community.



Eventually, the 1973 Plymouth will be permanently displayed inside the museum with our other historic vehicles. That

placement is a part of renovations under consideration for the museum. Visit the museum to see the latest display.

Updates to the Training Room and Theater Area

There have been significant enhancements made to both the theater and training room areas of the museum. The theater area is now equipped with a 70" TV/ computer monitor. The original 55" set has been moved to the training room in the front of the museum. Also, the museum has its own WiFi network. These modifications have made both rooms more accommodating for meetings and presentations. The training room is now equipped with



new tables that have enhanced the flexibility of the room. The tables can easily be arranged to accommodate any number of various assemblies.



Your continued support of the museum makes all of these improvements possible.

Thank you,

Kevin



*From the
President's Pen*

Captain Gregory Sacco (Ret.) 150

I hope that this, the first President's message for the newsletter, finds everyone in good health and spirits.

The Delaware State Police Museum annual elections were held on February 2, 2016. The Museum Corporate Members re-elected Bob Gouge and James Ford to the Board of Directors. Congratulations to Bob and Jim. The 2016 Board of Directors consists of: Peggy Anderson; John Campanella; Raymond Deputy; James L. Ford, Jr.; Robert Gouge; Paul Kane; Harvey Leighty; Charles McCall; John Miller; Gregory Sacco; and Jason Sapp.

The new Board then held an election of Officers for 2016. Elected were: Gregory Sacco – President, John Miller – Vice President, John Campanella – Secretary, and Paul Kane – Treasurer.



As your new President, and I speak for John Miller as well, we would like to thank the Board for their support. We would also like to thank both Bob Gouge and Ray Deputy for their support in the election, and more importantly, for all of their time and efforts during their many years serving as President and Vice President, respectively. Due in no small part to their dedication and efforts, the Museum was left in sound financial condition and is probably one of the best State Police museums in the nation.

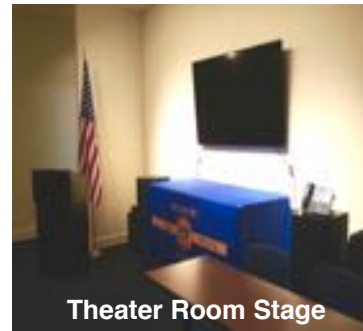
Thank you

We have also upgraded our Theater and Training Rooms with new furniture and a 70" television. It is our hope that these changes will make them more attractive for use by the Division and other agencies, bringing to light this beautiful Museum representing our rich history.



Our Board is now tasked with moving the Museum forward. We are facing the financial challenges of maintaining a building that is over 18 years old by evaluating systems, planning for normal repair and replacement, and maintaining proper funding levels to do so.

We are also looking at some museum renovations related to the addition of a 1973 Plymouth Fury which is representative of a vehicle used during our fiftieth year in operation. This presented us with an opportunity to upgrade our technology and reconfigure displays in order to add this historic vehicle.



Theater Room Stage



Theater Seating

In closing, I would like to thank all those who volunteer throughout the year in many capacities. I am also looking forward to engaging more of our Corporate Members to assist us in these endeavors. We hope to continue to keep everyone informed of our progress on these many fronts through subsequent Newsletters.



Stay healthy and safe.

Greg





From the Archives



Want State Cops To Be the Nations Best

Morning News
2/13/1925

The six members of the Delaware State Highway Police, who took a course at the New York Police School at Troy, N.Y., arrived home late yesterday. They were accompanied by Superintendent C.C. Reynolds, who went to Troy on Thursday to be present at the closing exercises of the school, Thursday night.

Superintendent Reynolds wants the Delaware State Constabulary to be the best in the country and it was with this end in view that he had a part of the force take the six weeks training at the New York School, which has been attended by police from all over the country.

The six men who took the course are: Lieutenant Messick, and Officers Beswick, Ray, Powell, Hession and Holt.



State Police Outwits Man Who Tried to Escape

07/20/1925

Frank Philoski, Suspected of Bootlegging,
Gave Officer Knecht Chase

Trooper Won Out

How a state trooper matched his wits against a man suspected of bootlegging and won was told at State Police Headquarters today. The trooper was Patrolman Knecht and the man who lost out was Frank Philoski of 600 Claymont Street. The latter was taken into custody, later being held by Magistrate Jones on \$1,000 bail to await the action of the grand jury. Along with the prisoner the officer captured 23 gallons of supposed liquor and confiscated an automobile.

Philoski's companion, John Martien of 622 Townsend Street, said to be the driver of the car, was also held on \$1,000 bail by Magistrate Jones.

Caught by Accident

Both arrests were made late Sunday night on the Philadelphia Pike. Trooper Knecht was stationed at a point of vantage, examining lights on automobiles. When the car was halted in which Martien and Philoski were riding, Knecht espied something in the rear that appeared suspicious.

Almost at the same time Philoski made a break on foot along the pike and ran to Naaman's Tea House, with Knecht close at his heels. At the Tea House Philoski didn't stop to ask admittance, but dashed through the front door and ran to the back of the house.

Knecht also darted through the door and a hasty search of the premises found Philoski cowering beneath a kitchen table. Both returned to where the car had been halted and Martien was also taken into custody.

Today Trooper Knecht was commended for his action by Superintendent of Police Reynolds.



Dedicated
Selfless
Proud



In Memoriam

*Our Fallen Heroes
Lest we Forget*

**Christopher Shea
1972 - 2004**



July 18, 2004



**William F. Mayer
1927 - 1955**



August 1955



**Robert H. Bell
1942 - 1993**



September 7, 1993

**Gerard T. Dowd
1962 - 1990**



September 11, 1990



Visit Trooper Dowd's Photo Gallery at http://www.dspmuseum.org/gerald_dowd.htm



**Dedicated
Selfless
Proud**



In Memorium

*Our Fallen Heroes
Lest We Forget*



*The soul would have no rainbow
if the eye had no tears
Native American proverb*

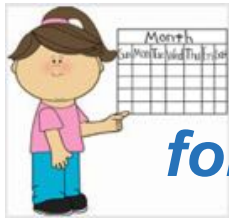
**Eugene B. Ellis
1926 - 1967**



September 11, 1967



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



*Mark your calendar
for our upcoming events*



Kids

Summer Day Program
August 4, 2016 4th-6th grades



DSP Museum: <http://www.dspmuseum.org>

DSP Museum Quarterly Special



DSP License Plate
\$15.00 each

Postage - \$7.00 (up to 3 plates)

Your purchase goes to support
the DSP Museum.

Thank you!



Memorial Brick Walk

Memorialize your service or those who supported you during your career. This is an excellent way of acknowledging your parents, spouse, sibling, children or another trooper. Show them that they are an important part of the DSP family and your life.

Visit our websites:

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/dspmuseum>

We're up to 796 likes - just a few more to reach our goal!





“Looking Back...”

do you have old photographs you'd like to share; then email or send them to the Museum Director.



Building a Legacy



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