



# Delaware State Police Museum & Education Center

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Museum Director: Major Kevin McDerby  
(Ret.) 411  
Newsletter Editor: Debbie Geiser  
Quarterly Newsletter  
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Visit the  
Delaware State Police  
Museum website  
<http://www.dspmuseum.com>

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## From the Director's Desk

Major Kevin P. McDerby (Ret.) 411

I will be leaving the museum in October after serving five years as the Director. I will probably be doing one more newsletter before then, but, in the event I do not, I did not want to miss the opportunity to share a posting on the ARDSP website with everyone.

I do take exception to one sentence in the post. In part, the first sentence states- "When a good man or woman leaves the line and retires to a better life-*etc.*" I can say, without a doubt, that there is no better life than serving the public as a Delaware State Trooper.

The posting ends with my favorite quote from the Bible. Matthew 5:9 is the ninth verse of the fifth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew in the New Testament. It is the seventh verse of the Sermon on the Mount, and also seventh of what are known as the Beatitudes. We should all be familiar with the verse - "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God." I, and many others, know that Jesus must have been referring to police officers.



**As I close, let me share a Vulcan salute— "Live Long and Prosper."**

## RETIREMENT

When a good man or woman leaves the line and retires to a better life, many are jealous, some are pleased and yet others, who may have already retired, wonder. We wonder if they know what they are leaving behind, because we already know. We know for example that after a lifetime of camaraderie that few experience, it will remain as a longing for those past times.

We know in the law enforcement life there is a fellowship which lasts long after the uniforms are hung up in the back of the closet. We know even if he or she throws them away, they will be on him or her with every step and breath that remains in his/her frame. We also know how the very bearing of the man or woman speaks of what he/she was and in his/her heart still is.

These are the burdens of the job. You will still look at people suspiciously, still see what others do not see or choose to ignore and will always look at the rest of the law enforcement world with a respect for what they do; only grown in a lifetime of knowing.

Never think for one moment you are escaping from the life. You are only escaping the "job" and we are merely allowing you to leave "active" duty.

So what I wish for you, is that you ease into retirement, but in your heart never forget for one moment that **"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God,"** and you are still a member of the greatest fraternity the world has ever known.

Author unknown

Thanks,

*Kevin*

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*From the  
President's Pen  
Captain Gregory Sacco (Ret.)150*



I hope that all is well with our readers. As summer finds its way here, the Museum is working on several new initiatives. We are striving to increase the number of our visitors and looking at ways to help us get more involved in the education of important local and national topics that coincide with our mission. Our Board of Directors, led by Board member Ed Martin and Director Kevin McDerby, has embarked on an ambitious project (Phase one) to change our signage to increase public awareness of our location.

One solution is to change our current wooden sign to one of the electronic signs that have become so popular in the retail and commercial venues. Electronic Message Centers (EMC), provide a multitude of advantages over the old methods. EMC's allow for very visible electronic messaging and allow that message to change to fit many needs. This effort opened the door to coordinate public safety needs that EMC's can fill.

As a part of this EMC project, the Board is looking to the EMC to fill several roles including public awareness and emergency announcements that could be broadcast to the public traveling by the Museum. We have been meeting with local and state agencies involved in public safety over the last several weeks discussing how this EMC can be used to provide meaningful traffic, safety and emergency information for the Dover area. When this project comes to fruition it can be the start of a state-wide emergency messaging system. What a fitting way to continue our public service function.

We have been working with potential state and local public safety partners looking for funding to assist in the cost of this project. Kent County Levy Court, in recognizing the importance of Emergency Messaging, has already awarded funding. We are working with some legislators for state assistance as well. More to follow as we near the end of the state legislative season.

Phase two of this project is the public awareness we hope to generate on a topic much in the news today. We are looking at adding an Opioid messaging and display in the museum. As citizens visit our Museum, what an appropriate location to address this critical societal issue. This issue is in the news and is impacting Delaware more than some realize. We hope to look at various methods of getting this information out to the public and increase their awareness, especially with our young visitors who can be so influenced by it. What a fitting way to add to the conversation on such an important subject.



In summary, with the use of additional campus pathway and highway signs, increased public awareness of our Museum, the potential to attract more visitors and finally an added focus on important public awareness and safety issues, we hope these efforts will be a springboard to enhance your next Museum visit.

Thank you.

Stay healthy, safe and God bless.

*Greg Sacco, President*





# From the Archives



## Newark, State Police Now Have 2-Way Radio Tie-Up

Journal  
01/9/1947

Newark, Jan. 9 - Special - A two-way radio tie-up between the Newark police and the Delaware State Police will go into effect within 60 days under a plan approved by town authorities yesterday. According to the new system, all local police calls will go by direct wire to the nearest state police headquarters where the information will be relayed to the Newark patrol car.



Major advantage to the public will be the fact that the local patrolman on duty can then be reached promptly at any time of the day or night. Under the present system, calls go to the town office, which must notify the patrol car through street blinker lights or post phones. This makes it difficult to reach the patrolmen on duty quickly with emergency calls, especially at night.

The two-way radio will be installed in the local car within a month or two, it was said. Installation cost will be about \$475, yearly maintenance, \$125; and the monthly telephone bill for the direct wire, \$45. The state police service will be free. Another advantage to the new set-up will be the fact that the local force will be able to summon state police aid in an emergency and receive prompt support from state patrol cars.

## Those State Police Pensions

Sunday Star  
07/13/1947

On the Star's letter page this morning Senator E. Paul Burkholder, "majority leader," calls attention to the fact that the bill providing money to pay the pensions of retired members of the State Police did pass the Senate on April 2.

It will be remembered that the General Assembly finally adjourned at 8:30 o'clock on the morning of April 5 after having been in session on its "last day" for 68 hours.

It may be some satisfaction to Senator Burkholder that his bill was passed by the Senate in the final unseemly scramble, when 150, or nearly half of the total product of 332 bills for the 60-day session were passed, but it will not be much satisfaction to the retired members of the police forces to reflect that their interests were neglected until the final throes of a pathetic travesty on law making.

The Legislature met on January 7, with many protestations that it would and could give full care and attention to every measure proposed, and still adjourn with the 60-day Constitutional limit for its session. Strange indeed that Majority Leader Burkholder should have allowed such a vital measure to languish without protest until almost the last possible moment of the season.

There should be no hitch in the payment of the pension money for retired State Policemen, whose long, useful, and sometimes dangerous service entitles them to prompt payment in full, to which end the State is morally bound.



# Dedicated Selfless Proud



## *In Memorium*

*Our Fallen Heroes  
Lest we Forget*

**Christopher Shea**  
1972 - 2004



**July 18, 2004**



**William F. Mayer**  
1927 - 1955



**August 1955**



*May the winds of Heaven blow softly  
and whisper in your ear  
How much we love and miss you  
and wish that you were here*

all-greatquotes.com



**Robert H. Bell**  
1942 - 1993



**September 7, 1993**







# Dedicated Selfless Proud



## *In Memorium*

*Our Fallen Heroes  
Lest We Forget*

**Gerald T. Dowd  
1962 - 1990**



**September 11, 1990**



**Eugene B. Ellis  
1926 - 1967**



**September 11, 1967**



*Remembering you is  
easy,  
I do it everyday,  
but missing you is a  
heartache  
that never goes away.*

[Sayinggoodbye.org](http://Sayinggoodbye.org)



## STATE TROOPER CHALLENGE COIN DISPLAY STAND



### 2 SIZES:

12" - \$55.00

18" - \$65.00

### 3 STAINS:

**MAPLE** (almost a clear coat) — **CHERRY** — **MAHOGANY**

### SHIPPING:

ALL DISPLAY STANDS WILL BE SHIPPED USING USPS LARGE BOX  
PRIORITY MAIL. ADDITIONAL COST— \$19.00

**Sorry—Due to the size of the display stand, delivery cannot be made  
using departmental mail.**

Click on link below to download the Challenge Coin Display Stand

[http://www.dspsmuseum.com/Site/documents/Order\\_Form1.pdf](http://www.dspsmuseum.com/Site/documents/Order_Form1.pdf)



**DELAWARE STATE POLICE  
MUSEUM  
4th Annual  
SUMMER DAY PROGRAM**



DSP (active and retired) parents and grandparents,

The museum will again be hosting a summer program for children ascending into the 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades. This program received rave reviews the past three years.

The intent is to showcase the Division and give children an opportunity to see the inner workings of the organization. There will be various special unit demonstrations including but not limited to the Aviation and K-9 Sections. Lunch will be provided at the DSP Academy.

Due to restrictions, the program will be limited to 30 children. **Our first priority is DSP families.** If we do not fill the program with DSP family members, we will advertise outside the division.

**Date and Time: Tuesday, August 14th—0830-1430**

If you think you would like to take advantage of this program, contact Kevin McDerby. Suggestions are also welcome.

Kevin.McDerby@state.de.us or (302) 739-7700

**To download the application**

[http://www.dspmuseum.com/day\\_program.pdf](http://www.dspmuseum.com/day_program.pdf)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Mark your calendar  
for our upcoming events*

Museum Board of  
Directors' Meetings  
August 7th, 10:00  
December 4th, 10:00

Meetings are held at the Museum

DELAWARE STATE POLICE  
MUSEUM  
4th Annual  
SUMMER DAY PROGRAM



**August 14th**

**MUSEUM CLOSED**  
**July 4th & September 3rd**



**LABOR  
DAY**



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



**DSP Museum  
Coffee Mug**



**DSP Mug - \$15.00**

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.

**Memorial Brick - \$100.00**

Visit our Facebook page and

**Like us on Facebook**

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







# *“Looking Back...”*

*“Delaware State Police  
4th Annual  
Summer Day Program”*



*Building a Legacy*

