

Delaware State Police Museum and Educational Center



P.O. Box 430
Dover, DE 19903
<http://www.dspmuseum.com>

Museum Director - Major Kevin P. McDerby, (Ret.) 411
Newsletter Editor - Debra Geiser
Volume 2 - 2nd Quarter



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From the Director's Desk

Major Kevin P. McDerby (Ret.) 411

Recently the staff of the Delaware Academy of Public Safety and Security Charter High School visited the museum. Senior Corporal Stanley Jiminez addressed the attendees. He advised the staff members that only 3 out every 100 applicants for the position of Trooper are successful in their quest. A large portion of those disqualified have had stupid transgressions earlier in life.

Stanley's presentation reminded me of a commencement address President Ronald Reagan delivered to the graduating class of The Citadel in 1993. The following is a part of that address:

Ronald Wilson Reagan, 40th President of the United States
Commencement Address
McAlister Field House
May 15, 1993

"The Citadel's roll of honor today stretches unblemished from the Ardennes to the 38th Parallel, from Grenada to the Persian Gulf with name after name of those who have served our country bravely in time of war - names like General Charles Summerall, General Mark Clark, and your current president, General Bud Watts. Yes, countless soldiers have distinguished themselves on fields of valor and are part of the century-and-a-half tradition of duty and honor we celebrate today.

But for me, there is one name that will always come to mind whenever I think of The Citadel and the Corps of Cadets. It is a name that appears in no military histories; its owner won no glory on the field of battle.

No, his moment of truth came not in combat, but on a snow-driven, peacetime day in the nation's capital in January of 1982. That is the day that the civilian airliner, on which he was a passenger, crashed into a Washington bridge, then plunged into the rough waters of the icy Potomac. He survived the impact of the crash and found himself with a small group of other survivors struggling to stay afloat in the near-frozen river. And then, suddenly, there was hope - a park police helicopter appeared overhead, trailing a lifeline to the outstretched hands below, a lifeline that could carry but a few of the victims to the safety of the shore. News cameramen, watching helplessly, recorded the scene as the man in the water repeatedly handed the rope to the others, refusing to save himself until the first one, then two, then three and four, and finally five of his fellow passengers had

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Director's Report



been rescued.

But when the helicopter returned for one final trip, the trip that would rescue the man who had passed the rope, it was too late. He had slipped at last beneath the waves with the sinking wreckage - the only one of 79 fatalities in the disaster who lost his life after the accident itself.

For months thereafter, we knew him only as the "unknown hero." And then an exhaustive Coast Guard investigation conclusively established his identity. Many of you here today know his name as well as I do, for his portrait now hangs with honor - as it indeed should - on this very campus; the campus where he once walked, as you have, through the Summerall Gate and along the Avenue of Remembrance. He was a young first class man with a crisp uniform and a confident stride on a bright spring morning, full of hopes and plans for the future. He never dreamed that his life's supreme challenge would come in its final moments, some 25 years later, adrift in the bone-chilling waters of an ice-strewn river and surrounded by others who desperately needed help.

But when the challenge came, he was ready. His name was Arland D. Williams, Jr., The Citadel Class of 1957. He brought honor to his alma mater, and honor to his nation. I was never more proud as president than on that day in June 1983 when his parents and his children joined me in the Oval Office - for then I was able, on behalf of the nation, to pay posthumous honor to him. Greater love, as the Bible tells us, hath no man than to lay down his life for a friend.

I have spoken of Arland Williams in part to honor him anew in your presence, here at this special institution that helped mold his character. It is the same institution that has now put its final imprint on you, the graduating seniors of its 150th year. But I have also retold his story because I believe it has something important to teach to you as graduates about the challenges that life inevitably seems to present - and about what it is that prepares us to meet them.

Sometimes, you see, life gives us what we think is fair warning of the choices that will shape our future. On such occasions, we are able to look far along the path, up ahead to that distant point in the woods where the poet's "two roads" diverge. And then, if we are wise, we will take time to think and reflect before choosing which road to take before the junction is reached.

But such occasions, in fact, are rather rare - far rarer, I

suspect, than the confident eyes of one's early twenties can quite perceive. Far more often than we can comfortably admit, the most crucial of life's moments come like the scriptural "thief in the night." Suddenly and without notice, the crisis is upon us and the moment of choice is at hand - a moment fraught with import for ourselves, and for all who are depending on the choice we make. We find ourselves, if you will, plunged without warning into the icy water, where the currents of moral consequence run swift and deep, and where our fellow man - and yes, I believe our Maker - are waiting to see whether we will pass the rope.

These are moments when instinct and character take command, as they took command for Arland Williams on the day our Lord would call him home. For there is no time, at such moments, for anything but fortitude and integrity. Debate and reflection and a leisurely weighing of the alternatives are luxuries we do not have. The only question is what kind of responsibility will come to the fore.

And now we come to the heart of the matter, to the core lesson taught by the heroism of Arland Williams on January 13, 1982. For you see, *the character that takes command in moments of crucial choices has already been determined. It has been determined by a thousand other choices made earlier in seemingly unimportant moments. It has been determined by all the little choices of years past - by all those times when the voice of conscience was at war with the voice of temptation - whispering the lie that it really doesn't matter. It has been determined by all the day-to-day decisions made when life seemed easy and crises seemed far away - the decisions that, piece by piece, bit by bit, developed habits of discipline or of laziness, habits of self-sacrifice or of self-indulgence, habits of duty and honor and integrity - or dishonor and shame.*

Because when life does get tough, and the crisis is undeniably at hand - when we must, in an instant look inward for strength of character to see us through - we will find nothing inside ourselves that we have not already put there."

Those of you who joined the ranks of the Delaware State Police know the meanings of **Discipline, Self-Sacrifice, Duty, Honor and Integrity**. Those values were instilled in you long before you entered the academy.

Respectfully, Kevin



From the Archives



STATE POLICE ON JOB ALL TIME: 1 NEW STATION

6/25/1925 - State Register

35 State Highway Police Will Keep Roads Safe For Motorists and Others
STATION OPENED AT SEAFOOD BRIDGE
Roads In Delaware Are Becoming Less Used For Speedways States Road Official

Over Memorial Day, holidays and from now on, the State Highway Police comprising 35 men are on the job day and night, safeguarding the state highways and looking after the protection of all motor tourists. All four of the police stations located at Penny Hill, State Road, Dover and Georgetown are now open 24 hours each day. One telephone number - 34 - serves for all. To reach Penny Hill, it is necessary to call Holly Oak 34, and State road to ask for New Castle 34, and the others from Dover 34 and Georgetown 34. Such a call will bring immediate response and aid, unless some unusual accident or call has been made just previous and the available men are attending to that detail.

With approximately ten to twenty percent more automobiles likely to be licensed in Delaware this year over last and travel of tourists from other states being heavier here, because of the long magnificent straight stretches of highways, the toll of accidents ought to normally increase, but with the extra police force, Mr. Buck hopes to keep this increase down to the minimum. All of the fifteen new cops have been assigned to their posts, being distributed among the four stations and the greater numbers placed where they will do the most good.

As far as speeding is concerned, the roads of Delaware, except in sections sparsely traveled, are becoming less used for speedways, as a trip along the highways will evidence. Of course, there are always some who will hit it up to 45 and 50 miles an hour when they see a straight stretch of highway and no policeman in sight, but these spurts are usually pretty short and they take no chances in and about towns and more populated rural communities.

It is the aim of the State Highway Police Department to show no leniency whatsoever towards drunken drivers. Every man or women caught driving a car while intoxicated will have to "face the music", as all motor authorities now frankly express the opinion that drunken drivers do greater harm to the motor trade commercially and to the pleasure of respectable citizens who drive, than any other one thing.

The stain of being arrested for driving while drunk carries the stigma throughout life in this state. When Mr. A has been penalized for driving a car while drunk, his drivers license card is punched. When he applies the next year for a new license card to drive, the same punch is continued in the new card, so that the disgrace continues with and against him.





**Dedicated
Selfless
Proud**



In Memoriam

*Our Fallen Heroes
Lest we Forget*

**Sandra Marie Wagner
1968 - 1996**



April 5, 1996



**Harold B. Rupert
1928 - 1962**



April 19, 1962



**Francis Ryan
1891 - 1922**



April 28, 1922

**William I. Jearman
1937 - 1979**



May 12, 1979





Dedicated Selfless Proud



In Memorium

*Our Fallen Heroes
Lest We Forget*

Raymond B. Wilhelm
1920 - 1951



May 30, 1951



George W. Emory
1946 - 1972



June 2, 1972



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendar for our upcoming events



April 9, 2016 - **Troop 6 Reunion** ~ call Kevin McDerby if interested.

DSP Memorial Service - May 4, 2016, 0900, at the Academy

FOP Memorial Service to follow at Legislative Hall



In the Oven:

Restoration of the 1973 Plymouth (currently at the DelCastle HS being painted.

Dedication of the Memorial Bench honoring Reverend Colonel Oscar Frundt ~ date to be announced.



Duty - Selflessness - Proud



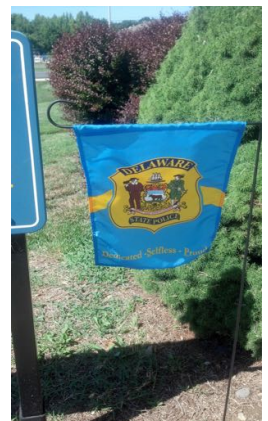
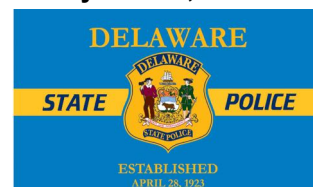
Memorial Brick Walk

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

Quarterly Special
Flags - Garden & 3x5 size
Regular Price - \$25.00 & \$60.00

NOW
\$20.00 & \$50.00 if ordered
by June 1, 2016



Your purchase goes to support the DSP Museum.
Thank you!



“Looking Back...”

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



WILMINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT 2015

RANDOLPH



Building a Legacy

Museum Director: Major Kevin P. McDerby, P.O. Box 430, Dover, DE 19903 - kevin.mcderby@state.de.us

GET READY FOR THE WARM WEATHER CUSTOM DSP CORNHOLE SET RAFFLE

The game set comes with two custom 24" x 48" regulation size cornhole boards with folding legs and a complete custom bag set (8 bags). No assembly required. The board sets are made strong using quality cabinet grade 1/2" birch plywood with super strong premium grade 2x4 frames and legs. These are the real deal.

Contact Kevin McDerby at the DSP Museum to reserve a ticket:

302-739-7700 or kevin.mcderby@state.de.us

You can send a check to the museum and an electronic copy of your ticket will be e-mailed to you.

The drawing will be held on May 3rd.



PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE DSP MUSEUM
Only 200 tickets at \$10.00 each

**5th Annual
Troop 6 (*all Troops*)
Reunion**



DAP--

Lancaster Pike

Saturday- April 9th- 1800-2100

Cost-- \$25.00

This event is for all active and retired Troopers. It is not limited to those who served at Troop 6. All present and former civilian employees who help or helped us accomplish our mission are welcome.



**DSP Beer Mug to first 90 attendees.
Beer, soda and food included.**

Contact Kevin McDerby at kmcderby@verizon.net

Please remember - if you say you will be there and are a no show, we still have to pay for you.