April 2023 Volume 19



# **Current Affairs**

"The troopers have the public's back; we have the trooper's backs."

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### Message from the Chairman

I want to wish everyone a Happy Spring! I know everyone is looking forward to the nice beautiful warm days to come. We are so happy to be bringing back the Newsletter. I want to say a special thank you to the ASPF Spouses' Auxiliary for producing this wonderful newsletter. This is turning out to be an exciting year for the ASPF and I couldn't be more pleased with our upcoming projects. We have many new members on the Board of Directors and we will spotlight them in the upcoming editions of the newsletter.

We are looking forward to the upcoming Farmers Bank Foundation/ASPF Golf tournament on May 12, 2023 at Mystic Creek Golf Club in El Dorado. Last year, this tournament raised \$105,000 for the Randy and Betty Hedge Spouses' Auxiliary Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is so near and dear to my heart and I am so thankful to the Farmers Bank Foundation for their support.

We have a raffle going on now for a Bad Boy Maverick zero turn mower that was donated by Joey Bray Fast Freight. The tickets are \$20 each and we will hold the drawing on May 18th at the Arkansas State Police Association building after the board of directors meeting. All of the proceeds from the raffle will go toward the scholarship fund as well.

We also have vehicle decals available. Please contact, Emily Hamilton, who has recently taken on the role of Executive Director. I am happy to have Emily on board.

ASPF recently received \$7.5 million dollars from AEDC that Leslie Rutledge pledged when she was Attorney General. ASPF plans to start construction soon at the Precision Driving Training Complex on a new building that will house a barracks and cafeteria. There will be more information to come as we begin the planning phase.

As you can see, there are many exciting things going on with ASPF and we can't wait to see what the future holds.



Sincerely, Frank Guinn

Chairman of the Board Arkansas State Police Foundation

Cell: (870) 239-1901 Email: <u>imas@grnco.net</u>



# **April Spotlights**

#### **Executive Committee**

Frank Guinn, Chairman Cleveland Wilson, Vice-Chair Will Brewer, Treasurer Trav Baxter Daniel "Woody" Futrell Chris Gosnell Jerry L. Halsey, Jr. Don Houseworth Greg Sanson

**Board of Directors** \*Advisors Elizabeth Anderson Murray Benton Patti Cannon **Benson Cashion** Joe Chacko Hon. Marvin Childers Derek Cisne Steve Cook Billy Curl Chris Dickinson Joe Donaldson Blake Eddins Dennis Ferra\* Alex Flemister

Bill Humble **Brooks Jackson** 

**Butch Heath\*** 

Randy Hedge\*

Dennis Jungmeyer Henry Kelley

Eric King

Robert Klein Randy Lann\*

Blaine Nunn

Ray Osment

Dave Parker

Hon. Harold Perrin

Josh Rogers

Mike Shepard

**Payton Smith** 

**Todd Smith** 

Steven Son

Ed Staley

John Stuckey\*

Joe Thielke

Doug Wasson

Bill Weeks

Hon. Damon Young\*

#### **Advisory Council**

Mayor Josh Agee Mayor Bart Castleberry Dr. Charisse Childers Mayor Harold Copenhaver Hon. Marvin Day Capt. Rick Dickinson, Retired Hon. Sonia Fonticiella Steven King Maj Gen Jonathan Stubb

## **Board Member Spotlight**

#### **ALEX FLEMISTER**

Alex Flemister serves as a member of senior staff to Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders as the Director of Boards and Commission. Before joining Governor Sanders' administration, Alex spent his career in both the public and private sectors. Most recently as the Director of Operations for the Sarah for Governor campaign and before that serving as Associate Director for the White House Office of Public Liaison under President Donald J. Trump where Alex was the liaison for the business, Veteran, and AAPI communities.



Alex is dedicated to serving his community; he is involved in non-profits around Arkansas and throughout the country. Alex serves on the board for The Independence Fund, a nonprofit committed to empowering our nations catastrophically wounded, injured, or ill Veterans so they may overcome all wounds incurred in the line of duty. He also serves on the Board of Advisors for Policy Veterans, a think tank dedicated to developing and researching data that can be used to support policy brought before congress that improves the lives of America's Veterans across the country. In Arkansas, Alex serves as Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Pulaski and Perry Counties and is also on the Executive Leadership Board for the University of Arkansas, his alma matter, where he studied finance and economics at the Walton College of Business. Alex is a lifelong Arkansan and resides in Little Rock.



## **New ASP Director Sworn in**

### PLEASE WELCOME COLONEL MIKE HAGAR

Colonel Hagar was the first appointment of Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders and was sworn in as Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Colonel of the Arkansas State Police on January 10, 2023. Colonel Hagar is a 26-year veteran of the ASP and served as Captain of Troop A of the Highway Patrol Division for six years, the largest field command in the state, bringing years of public safety experience to the job. He started as a Troop B highway patrolman and spent time as a sergeant at the Troop A training division.

He worked with the Executive Protection Detail, protecting the Governor of Arkansas and their immediate family for 14 years. Colonel Hagar has a solid record of exceptional leadership and represents the proud Arkansas State Police tradition of leadership, respect, integrity, and justice. Colonel Hagar graduated from Southside High School and received his Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. In 1995, he graduated from the Little Rock Police Academy and from Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command in 2012. He is married to Kimberly, and they have one son. When the Auxiliary was first started in 2017, Colonel Hagar was immediately supportive and interested in advancing the work of the Auxiliary. He is aware of the Foundation's efforts and he has always been appreciative of our work. He will be our partner and we stand ready to help him in any way we can. Page | 2

## **Trooper Retiree Spotlight**

#### ANDREW HARRIS JR.

Andrew Dudley Harris Jr. was born July 13, 1948 in Driver, Ar. He attended Southern Baptist College - Walnut Ridge and Mississippi County Community College - Blytheville Air Force Base. He is a Veteran of the US Air Force, served with Osceola Police Department from 1973-1983, became an Arkansas State Trooper in 1983 and proudly retired in 2010 as a Senior Corporal.

Without hesitation, Harris came out of retirement in 2011 when he was called upon to assist, advise, and strengthen department standards at the Mississippi County Sheriff's Department in Luxora, Arkansas where he served as Chief Deputy in Administration. After Instructor's Development training, Andrew was promoted to rank of Major, August 22, 2012.

Based on his exemplary appearance and dedication to the entire department and communities of Mississippi County, Harris served as Major Chief Deputy in Administration for the department until his official retirement from the workforce, February 28, 2022. Harris's career spanned over four decades (48 yrs.) of proud, sincere and humble service to his city, county, state, and country.





Friend, State Trooper, Deputy Major retired Andrew D. Harris, Jr.

After his second retirement, he's relaxing and spending time with loved ones however, still ready to assist in the community whenever needed. Harris enjoys mixing his favorite barbecue sauce, grilling for family and neighbors, eating out, engaging in virtual TV services, and watching Gunsmoke. He enjoys attending school events with great grandsons, (Kourtney, age 9 and Zurik age 6), loves taking long drives in his Harley Davidson truck, and meeting new people and sharing with all who'll listen about his long, adventurous, exciting career.

Andrew and his family give God all the Praise for everything!!!



# **Auxiliary Member Spotlight**

#### LAUREN MIDDLECOFF

My name is Lauren Middlecoff and I grew up in Pocahontas, AR. I attended Arkansas State University for my bachelor's degree in Psychology and the University of Arkansas for my master's degree in Social Work. I worked as a school based mental health therapist for several years until our daughter, Olivia, was born in 2018. Through high school and college I enjoyed doing photography as a hobby. While staying home with our daughter her first year, my photography business grew and I am now almost 5 years in as a full-time

photographer in Jonesboro and have my own studio storefront. My husband Tanner has been with ASP for almost 6 years. He is a K-9 unit and assigned to ICP in Troop C. We've been together 10 years, and married for 6 years. We have one daughter, Olivia. I thoroughly enjoy being a part of Troop C's auxiliary to connect with the other wives and families in our area as well as giving back and serving the community.



# **Fundraising Opportunities**

Presented by:

**FARMERS BANK** FOUNDATION

ARKANSAS STATE POLICE FOUNDATION

## **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Friday, May 12, 2023 Tee-Off: 8:00 AM & 1:00 PM

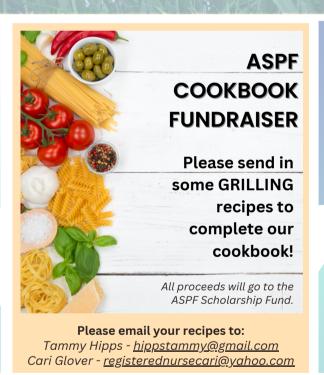
MYSTIC CREEK GOLF CLUB 191 Club House Dr, El Dorado, AR 71730

### A NEW WAY TO DONATE!



TEXT "ASPF"

**TO 243725 TO GIVE** 



**Show your support** with ASPF Decals!



\$100 each (tax write off)

Contest deadline is May 31st. Contact Emily Hamilton at the ASPF Office to order decals.

## **Bad Boy Mower Raffle**

### **\$20.00 PER TICKET**

- Must be 18 years or older to claim prize
- Proceeds go toward ASPF scholarship
- Drawing May 18, 2023 after the ASPF Board Meeting

Donated by:







## **Auxiliary News**

# "Egg My Yard" Auxiliary Fundraiser

### AN EGG-CELENT OUTCOME TO SHELL-EBRATE!

Troop B, Troop C, Troop G, and Troop I all took on the "Egg My Yard" Fundraiser during the month of April. Auxiliary members worked to "egg yards" at night, so youth would have the chance to wake up and visited by the Easter Bunny. Members worked to share the fundraisers, stuff the eggs, and hide the eggs across their troops to fundraise. Check out the submitted pictures to see how much fun these members had!





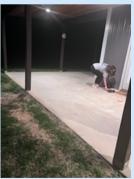


























# New Auxiliary Member

### CHRISTY MARTIN

My name is Christy Martin, wife of Trooper Cody Martin. We have have been blessed with 5 beautiful and healthy children. 4 crazy boys ages 14, 11, 7 and 4 and finally a little princess who is 16 months. I have been a registered nurse for 10 years and have been travel nursing for most of that. I joined the ASPF just recently because I really love the idea of the spouses coming together to be that second line of good that the community sees from State Police. I love that together; we help fundraise for scholarships to each other's children and that we are able to support our Troop beyond just loving our own Troopers.

## **Upcoming Events**

### TUESDAY, APRIL 18 - ASP RETIREE LUNCHEON

ASPF is hosting an Arkansas State Police Retiree Luncheon at the new Precision Driving Training Complex.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 20 - ASPF BOARD MEETING

Executive Board meets at 9:30 AM and Directors meet at 11:00 AM at the Arkansas State Police Association Meeting Room.

### FRIDAY, MAY 12 - ASPF GOLF TOURNAMENT

Rescheduled ASPF Golf Tournament at Mystic Creek Club in El Dorado, AR. Tee off times are at 8:00 AM & 1:00 PM. Volunteers needed! All proceeds go to the Randy and Betty Hedge Spouses' Auxiliary Scholarship Fund.

### THURSDAY, MAY 18 - ASPF BOARD MEETING

Executive Board meets at 9:30 AM and Directors meet at 11:00 AM at the Arkansas State Police Association Meeting Room.

### THURSDAY, MAY 18 - DRAWING FOR BAD BOY MOWER

Bad Boy Mower ticket stubs will need to be mailed to the office by May 9. A winner will be selected and announced. All proceeds go to the Randy and Betty Hedge Spouses' Auxiliary Scholarship Fund.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 31 - DEADLINE FOR DECAL CONTEST

There are plenty of decals to sell for this year! Turn in your money and forms to ASPF, P.O. Box 64, Kirby, AR 71950. Auxiliary members who have sold ASPF Decals are eligible for prizes! The prizes are as follows: 1st Place - HOBO Wallet and 2nd Place - a Kendra Scott Necklace.