

# **Current Affairs**

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

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# **Message from the President**

April is a month packed with events for the Arkansas State Police Foundation, and several groups have been working tirelessly toward their fundraising goals. This week, the Arkansas State Police Foundation hosted its Annual Retiree Luncheon at the Arkansas State Police Driving Track and Training Facility, which was attended by retirees, current recruits, and marked the restart of the ASP chaplain program. The luncheon was a fantastic opportunity for people to share stories and memories. We all learned more about the Arkansas State Police past operations. Attendees also had the chance to see retired vehicles in pristine condition, some of which had no seatbelts or cages when in use.

A special thank you to the spouses auxiliary who attended the event and worked hard to make the luncheon a grand success.

The Arkansas State Police Foundation has had a tremendously successful first quarter in 2024, thanks to its fundraising efforts across the state. Emily and the board have been working tirelessly to spread the word about the Foundation and its mission to support troopers. With a couple of upcoming events this month, including a dueling piano event at the Texarkana Country Club and the Farmers Bank golf tournament at Mystic Creek in El Dorado, the foundation aims to continue raising money for the scholarship program.

Currently, the Foundation supports 19 students, with 13 more joining this fall. Scholarship letters will be mailed out this week to our trooper's children rewarding just over \$416,000 in scholarships covering 8 semesters. Over the next five years, it expects to provide over \$2 million in scholarships to support troopers' dependents in their secondary education journey.

If you're interested, the Foundation would love for you, your spouse, or your family to join in on any of the upcoming events. Don't miss out on the chance to support the Arkansas State Police Foundation and their incredible work!



Sincerely, Elizabeth Anderson

Elizabeth Anderson, President of the Board Arkansas State Police Foundation (501) 580-5717 <u>elizabeth.anderson@myfarmers.bank</u>



# April Spotlights



# Trooper Retiree Spotlight

For those unfamiliar, Jan Simonetti proudly served as an Arkansas State Trooper in Crittenden County from June 2, 1988, until retirement on July 1, 2014, accumulating 26 years of dedicated service. Throughout their career, highlights included instructing E.V.O.C. (Emergency Vehicle Operations Course) statewide, mentoring new recruits as a drill instructor, and guiding aspiring law enforcement professionals aged 15-18 through the Preparatory Trooper Academy.

Additionally, Jan had the privilege of safeguarding several governors and dignitaries, contributing substantially to Arkansas Special Olympics, and representing the Arkansas State Police in the 2013 South Korea torch run. Even post-retirement, Jan remains dedicated and engaged with their State Police family in Trp. D.

# **ASP Command Spotlight**

#### CAPTAIN PHILLIP HYDRON

Captain Philip Hydron currently commands Troop D, covering Prairie, Woodruff, Monroe, Phillips, Lee, St. Francis, Cross, and Crittenden Counties. Captain Hydron was raised in Searcy, AR and later attended Harding University. He began his career with the Arkansas State Police in 2003. Prior to his current role, Captain Hydron served as assistant Troop D commander, 2021 to 2023, Troop D post sergeant, 2017 to 2021, Special Agent in the Arkansas State Police Criminal Investigation Division, 2005 to 2017, Highway Patrol, Woodruff County until 2005.



While in the Criminal Investigation Division, he served on the FBI Task Force and the United States Marshal's Fugitive Task Force. Captain Hydron has served on the ASP SWAT Team for the past 18 years and currently serves as the assistant SWAT commander and entry team leader. Captain Hydron and wife, Rorie, live outside of Marion in Crittenden County. They have three children, Trevor, Payton, and Kylie and one grandson, Asher.

Hydron understands the importance of fostering relationships with other law enforcement agencies on the local, State, and Federal levels, working together, to make Arkansas a safe place for all to enjoy. When not on duty, he enjoys fishing, hunting, attempting to play golf, and wrestling with their grandson, Asher.



### Auxiliary Member Spotlights

#### **RORIE HYDRON**

Rorie (Troop D President) is married to Captain Philip Hydron. Rorie is a Nurse Supervisor at Lebonheur Pediatrics in Germantown, TN. She has been a pediatric nurse for 14 years. Rorie is very active in supporting Arkansas State Police in anyway possible. She is also one of the original Auxiliary Members. Being married to a VERY active trooper is not for the weak and that is where she feels she is able to use her experiences and challenges to mentor to other spouses which is a very important asset. Rorie says, "I truly believe that we are representatives of ASP as spouses. We are all a very large Family."



Philip and Rorie have 3 children Trevor (daughter in love, Kaitlyn and grandson, Asher), Payton, and Kylie (whom is currently a scholarship recipient). They also have 2 Labradoodles, Cache and River.



#### CASSIE MORRIS

Cassie (Troop D VP) is married to Sergeant Spencer Morris. They have been married for 12 years. They have 2 children Lynlee (8) and Whitten (3). Cassie has been part of the Spouses Auxiliary since 2018.

Cassie uses her supportive skills at home and in her career as well. Cassie is a Physical Therapy Assistant caring for patients at Regional One Health in Memphis, TN for the past 6 years. Cassie says, "Seeing patients in some of the most unfortunate situations keeps me motivated to support my ASP Family."

The Auxiliary is such a value to each Troop and State (as a whole) in so many ways. We are Excited to bring all the ideas to reality with Troop D.



#### TROOP L AUXILIARY FUNDRAISER

Troop L Auxiliary collaborated with CS Bank for their second annual fundraiser on March 24th. Annually, the bank allows nonprofits and civic organizations the opportunity to raise money with parking proceeds at it's Historic Downtown Branch Facility. The local bank donates the parking lot free of charge for any group that meets standard criteria.



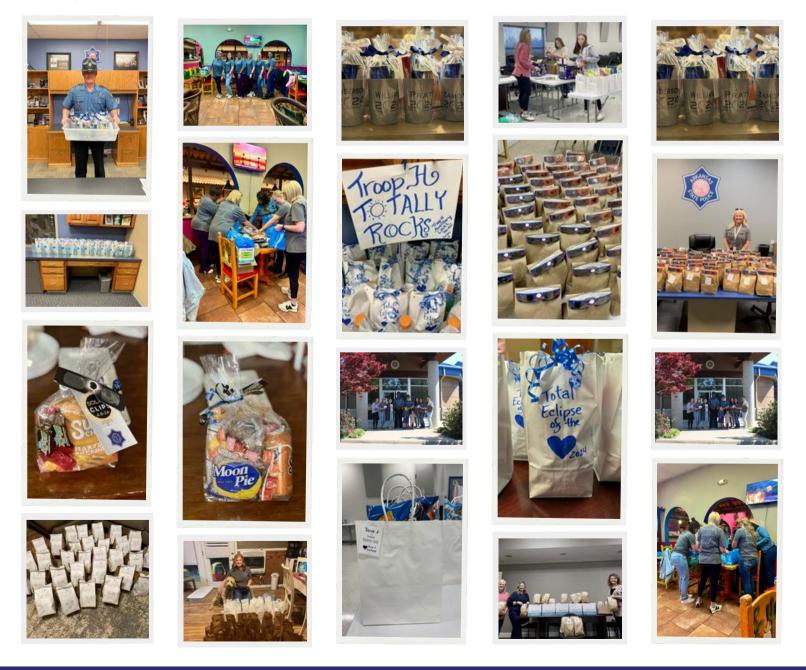


# **Auxiliary News**

## **ASPF's Total Eclipse of the Heart**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Foundation and each individual troop for their invaluable contribution in assembling the Eclipse Essential Kits. These kits, adorned with an array of essentials, served as indispensable companions during the cosmic event.

With eye protection and energizing snacks at hand, our Troopers were not only safeguarded but also kept fueled and focused throughout the day. Your thoughtful gesture ensured their well-being and enhanced their experience amidst the celestial spectacle.





### **Community Involvement**



ARKANSAS STATE POLICE

FOUNDATION SPOUSES' AUXILIARY

#### **TROOP E ARM-WRESTLES FOR A CAUSE**

Troop E participated in Jefferson County Kids Fest 2024. They made around 200 goodie bags to share with the kids. Troopers also participated by bringing out their "big guns" and arm wrestling brave competitors. This event was presented by the Jefferson County Foster Care Coalition and honored and celebrated child abuse prevention month.



#### **TROOP B SUPPORTS BATESVILLE'S BABY BOX**

Troop B contributed funds to help facilitate the installation of a Safe Haven Baby Box in Batesville. This project was the idea of a group of Sulphur Rock EAST 4th graders who identified a need in their area. The box will provide a safe place for women to surrender their newborn while maintaining anonymity.



# **FOUNDATION** Fundraising Opportunities



#### 4 NOVEMBER 2024 1 PM START TIME

Lexus Pebble Beach Golf Trip Raffle Tickets \$100 Please contact Emily at 501-565-4661 Proceeds benefit the

Presented by:

FARMERS BANK

FOUNDATION

\$1200 Team Sponsorship

LUNCH & PRIZES GOLFERS WILL RECEIVE A \$75 GIFT CARD TO THE PRO SHOP

Proceeds benefit the ASPF Scholarship Fund

#### TEXT "ASPF"



TO 243725 TO GIVE

#### NEW WAY TO DONATE SmartPay QR Code



This feature can be used to make a one time donation or can set up an account to manage recurring donations to the ASP Foundation.

COOKS CAN BE SHIPPED 

### ARKANSAS STATE POLICE FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, April 26th Tee-Off: 8:00 AM & 1:00 PM MYSTIC CREEK GOLF CLUB 191 Club House Dr, El Dorado, AR 71730 Contact Candace Rankin @ 870-235-7003 for more information



\$100 each (tax write off)

Auxiliary sales contest deadline is May 31st.

Contact Emily Hamilton at the ASPF Office to order decals.



# **Upcoming Events**

### **Upcoming Events**

#### APRIL 20, 2024 - ASPF SPOUSES' AUX. DUELING **PIANO FUNDRAISER**

5:30 PM - 10:00 PM @ Texarkana Country Club

#### **APRIL 26, 2024 - FARMERS BANK FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT**

• El Dorado, AR

#### JUNE 3, 2024 - CONWAY ASPF GOLF TOURNAMENT

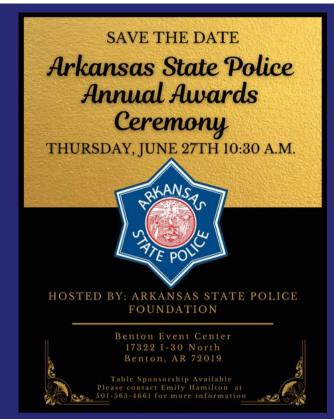
More information to be announced

#### JUNE 27, 2024 - ASP ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

10:30 AM @ Benton Event Center

#### **NOVEMBER 4, 2024 - ASPF LEXUS CHAMPIONS FOR CHARITY GOLF OUTING**

1:00 PM @ Pleasant Valley Country Club



### **Arkansas State Police Foundation**

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