



“The troopers have the public’s back; we have the troopers’ backs.”

December 2020

Volume 2

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Events

Upcoming Board Meeting

- **January 21, 2021 via Zoom**
 - Please check your email for instructions.

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBER

We welcome Hank Kelley to the ASP Foundation Board of Directors. Thank you for joining us and we look forward to working with you.



Hank Kelley joined the Board of Directors in September. Hank is CEO, Partner and Executive Broker for Kelley Commercial Partners in Little Rock.

He has been with the firm for 36 years and is committed to delivering superior service to all his clients. He grew up in Heber Springs, received his BSBA in Real Estate from UA Fayetteville and his MBA in Finance from UALR. Hank serves as President of the Little Rock Rotary Club and is involved with numerous civic organizations. He and his wife, Stephanie, have four grown children.

Message from Our Chairman



More than ever, our support for our troopers and law enforcement in general is needed. In many places in our country, although fortunately not here, we see a complete breakdown of support for our men and women of law enforcement, who are willing to risk their lives for others each day. We see locations which want to defund the police.

We see locations which force their police to stand by and allow lawlessness to go on, or worse, who take the very tools which they need to survive away from them. Many people do not understand the hearts that beat within the chest of our officers. All they see are the very few officers who fail in their duties, and they judge all the others by those few. The hearts of most policemen are filled with a love for family, with concern for those who can least defend themselves, and with an overwhelming loyalty to their agencies, their state or city, and their coworkers. In the past, we have seen many officers who were willing to give their lives to protect others, and there is nothing to make us think that will change in the future. On the day that is now known as “9/11”, many people saw something they did not understand. They saw first responders, firefighters and policemen, running not away from danger, but towards danger, and ultimately, towards their own deaths. I am sure that in many of their minds were visions of their own spouses and children, and whether they would see them again, but that did not slow them down, because they had hearts of service. They did not want to let their team members down, or to let their team members go in alone, or ultimately, let them die alone. They wanted to get every single person to safety, at whatever cost. On that day, those men and women personified, on live TV and in living color, the values that our law enforcement officers hold. Our people, in this state, hold the same values and have done the same things many times, although not on such a vast scale, or in public view. All of you are here to support them. You do so in many ways, both financially and with your time. Currently, in our history, perhaps more than at any other in our past, they need your support. They need you to encourage elected officials to support them, and to give them tools they need to do their jobs. Above all, they need all of us to be willing to make sacrifices for them, although our sacrifices are of a different nature. They are willing to lay their lives on the line for us, and I so much appreciate all of you for your undying support for our troopers and law enforcement officers.

Thank you for everything you do.

Frank Guinn

Board Member Spotlight



Verlyn G. “Butch” Heath has been on the Board of Directors since 2012. Butch is the Owner/President of Heath Funeral Home in Paragould.

He served in the U.S. Army and later was the first EMT/Paramedic in Green County. Butch has served on the Governor’s EMS Advisory Council, was the Founder of the Greene County Rescue Squad in 1983 and served as Director. He was the Chairman of the Paragould Christmas Parade for 10 years. He and his wife, Jan Heath, have two sons Zac Heath and Jeremy Heath, a daughter Whitney Heath Dickinson, and 6 grandchildren.

ASP Commissioner Spotlight



Arkansas State Police Commissioner Steve Edwards lives in Marianna and is the owner of GES, Inc., a corporation owning and operating Edwards Food Giant and Edwards Cash Saver supermarkets.

Commissioner Edwards was appointed to the ASP Commission in 2017 by Governor Asa Hutchinson. Prior to being appointed to the ASP Commission, he served on the Foundation Board of Directors. He also was a Commissioner on the Arkansas Economic Development Commission from 1998 - 2014. He and his wife, Laura, have three children: Ashley, Leigh, and Steve, Jr. In his spare time Commissioner Edwards enjoys fishing, hunting, and flying.

Executive Committee

Frank Guinn, Chairman
 Joe Thielke, Vice-Chairman
 Will Brewer, Treasurer
 Neely Camp, Secretary
 Trav Baxter
 Benson Cashion
 Randy Lann
 Hon. Dr. Johnnie Roebuck
 Cleveland Wilson

Advisory Council

Lt. Gen. Mark Berry
 Dr. Charisse Childers
 Capt. Rick Dickinson
 Hon. Scott Ellington
 Major Gen. Kendall Penn
 Mayor Harold Perrin
 Dr. Lewis Shephard

Board of Directors

Patti Cannon	Brooks Jackson
Hon. Marvin Childers	Levi Johnson
Richard (Dick) Cisne	Dennis Jungmeyer
Steve Cook	Hank Kelley
Kirk Cupp	Robert Klein
Marvin Day	Blaine Nunn
Chris Dickinson	Dave Parker
Joe Donaldson	Barry Philips
Dennis Ferra*	Jason Ramsey
Daniel (Woody) Futrell*	Josh Rogers
Sen. Bobby Glover	Greg Sanson
Chris Gosnell	Mike Shepard
Jerry Halsey, Jr.*	Ed Staley
Butch Heath*	Stephen Strange
Randy Hedge	John Stuckey
Don Houseworth*	Doug Wasson
Bill Humble	Bill Weeks
Matt Hyneman	Damon Young*

*Advisors to the Executive Board

ASP Awards Ceremony



Colonel Bill Bryant with Trooper of the Year Matt Price and his wife, Malia.



Colonel Bill Bryant with Civilian of the Year Mike Patterson and his son.



SWAT Commander Jeff Sheeler (third from left) with SWAT award recipients, Corporal Jason Baethke, Trooper's Cross; Corporal Nicholas Brown, Trooper's Cross; Corporal Mike Nelson, Medal of Valor; Sergeant Chad Staley, Medal of Valor; Sergeant Philip Hydron, Medal of Valor; and Corporal Andrew Ault, Trooper's Cross.

Holiday Office Hours

The ASPF office will be closed December 12-January 4. We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Vehicle Decals

The contributions for 2020 vehicle decals need to be submitted as soon as possible to Caitlin Crane at the ASPF office. Please include the donors and decal number so we can update our records and Chairman Guinn can send a letter with tax information to the donors. 2021 vehicle decals will be available for distribution to Board members in January.

ASP Awards Ceremony

The ASP Awards ceremony, originally scheduled for April at Camp Robinson, was held at the State Capital on October 28, due to Covid-19 regulations. Commissioner Neff Basore presented the Trooper awards and Dr. Charisse Childers represented the ASP Foundation Board in presenting the Civilian of the Year awards. Due to limited attendance, the ceremony was broadcast on Facebook Live and a video is available at Arkansas State Police Annual Awards Ceremony. (facebook.com)

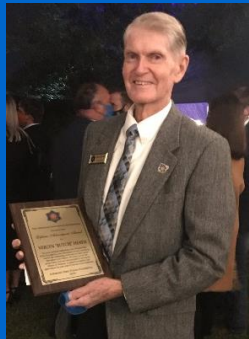
Sincere thanks to our 2020 Sponsors:

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 Frank Guinn
 Gus Vratsinas
 Drs. Johnnie and Tommy Roebuck
 Jonathan Hurd
 McGeorge Contracting Co.
 Richard Cisne
 Wil-Shar

Annual Appreciation Dinner

The Annual ASPF Appreciation Dinner was held at the Governor's Mansion on October 15. While the venue was changed to a garden event due to Covid-19 regulations, it was highly successful, and we appreciate the table hosts for their contributions. A special thank you to Governor Asa Hutchison for giving our keynote address and to First Lady Susan Hutchinson for providing inspirational remarks. We are so grateful to the Spouses' Auxiliary for serving as hosts for the dinner.

Special Thanks to our Auxiliary Sponsors, Dr. Johnnie Roebuck and Patti Cannon, for your assistance. We greatly appreciate Auxiliary officers Kari Sawyer, Troop K, Teresa Hill, Troop C, Stephanie Norris, Troop F, Stephanie Avant, Troop K, Aisha Coleman, Troop A, and Whitney Hall, Troop D, for all your hard work.



Butch Heath
Lifetime Achievement
Award



Senator Bobby Glover with
State Representative
Les Warren
Legislator of the Year Award.



Betty and Randy Hedge
Hall of Fame Award



Sam Winstead
Hall of Fame Award



Daniel "Woody" Futrell
Hall of Fame Award

Annual Appreciation Dinner



Rev. Dr. Lewis
Shepherd gave the
Invocation.



Jan and Butch Heath



Randy and Betty Hedge and their guests.



Sharri and Joe Thielke



Charlotte and Senator
Bobby Glover



Cleveland Wilson



Dr. Tommy Roebuck,
Dr. Johnnie Roebuck, and
Senator Percy Malone



Benson Cashion,
Ermon Cox Award



Joe Thielke
Ermon Cox Award



Attorney General
Leslie Rutledge and
Governor Asa
Hutchinson



Randy Lann with
Mansion Staff



Sheriff Marty Boyd
Chairman's Award



Emily Hamilton, Troop
G Spouses' Auxiliary
President
Chairman's Award



Honorable Judge
Marvin Day
Chairman's Award



CID Corporal Bo Norris
and Troop F Treasurer,
Stephanie Norris



Don and Robin
Houseworth



Commissioner Neff Basore
and Scarlett Basore



Lt. General Mark Berry



Troop C Captain
John Carter
Chairman's Award



Jonesboro Police Chief
Rick Elliot
Chairman's Award



Troop K Auxiliary
Treasurer, Stephanie and
husband, Corporal James
Avant



Mike Shepard and son,
Rhett



US Attorney Cody Hiland
Chairman's Award



Mayor Harold Perrin
Chairman's Award



Jerry Halsey, Jr. and Family

Auxiliary

SPOUSES' AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Emily Hamilton, Troop G Spouses' Auxiliary President, had the great idea of forming a scholarship fund to provide higher education financial assistance for children of the ASP family while encouraging auxiliary participation. The idea originated with Troop G but, when ASPF Chairman Guinn heard this idea, he wanted a statewide scholarship fund. Randy and Betty Hedge provided the initial endowment to fund the Scholarship and Senator Bobby Glover has been busy raising additional funds. Kari Sawyer, Statewide Auxiliary President, reached out to each troop and formed the Scholarship Committee which includes four subcommittees: Scholarship Recipients' Eligibility, Scholarship Auxiliary Members Involvement for Eligibility, Fundraising and Grant Writing. Subcommittees are meeting regularly with the assistance of ASPF Board members Neely Camp and Dr. Johnnie Roebuck. ASPF Board Members John Stuckey and Randy Hedge along with Betty Hedge and Robin Houseworth coordinate the Fundraising Subcommittee. **If you would like to help with this important work, please contact Kari Sawyer at kariks41@hotmail.com or 501-276-4958.**

WE NEED YOUR HELP! SEND RECIPES ASAP!

The ASPF Spouses' Auxiliary needs recipes as they finalize the publication of their Auxiliary Cookbook. They want at least one tried-and-true recipe from each Board member. If you have not already sent one, please send to Kari Sawyer at kariks41@hotmail.com. **PLEASE HELP MAKE THIS PROJECT A SUCCESS!**

Hearts for Heroes



FaSeeia Preston presented a check to Yvonne and Charlie Strickland on behalf of the Foundation.

FaSeeia Preston, Troop E Spouses' Auxiliary Treasurer and Scholarship Committee member, was quick to action when one of their Troop E dispatchers had a housefire early Thanksgiving morning and lost everything. ASPF got a check out immediately to help this family with their immediate needs.

Fall Fish Fry

Jason Ramsey and wife, Heather, hosted a fish fry and gun raffle on October 17 in Russellville. Over 230 dinners were sold. Attendees included Troop J troopers, area State Legislators, Pope County Judge Ben Cross, Pope County Sheriff Shane Jones, and several Foundation Board members.



Kohen and ASPF Troop J Spouse Jamie Matthews and Board Member, Patti Cannon



Board Member Levi and Starla Johnson, Captain Kyle Drown, Board Member Patti Cannon, Board Vice-Chair, Joe Thielke and wife, Sharri.

Hearts for Heroes Event



Don Houseworth, Molly Houseworth Jackson, and Abby Houseworth Whitener



Rhonda Hodges and State Representative Monte Hodges.

Don and Robin Houseworth, with their daughters, Molly Houseworth Jackson and Abby Houseworth Whitener, hosted a Hearts for Heroes dinner in Blytheville on November 13. The event, which followed Covid-19 precautions, was highly successful and raised over \$50,000 for the ASP Foundation Hearts for Heroes account. This is the second event hosted by the Houseworths. Their first Hearts for Heroes Dinner was held in March, 2019, and raised \$55,000.