



ARKANSAS STATE POLICE
FOUNDATION

Current Affairs

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

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Message from the Chairman

I hope everyone has a great start to summer. We are continuing to have an exciting year at the ASPF. We have many new members on the Board of Directors and will spotlight them in the upcoming newsletter editions. We also have a waiting list of people who wish to become board members.

We are honored to host the ASP Annual Awards Ceremony and Luncheon on June 21, 2023, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Camp Robinson Education Center. We hope to have many members of the Board of Directors attend. The awards honor so many ASP troopers, ASP personnel, and civilians for their acts of heroism, and we are glad to be a part of it.

We look forward to the upcoming Farmers Bank Foundation/ASPF Golf tournament on June 30, 2023, at Mystic Creek Golf Club in El Dorado. We are hoping for good weather! Last year, this tournament raised \$105,000 for the Randy and Betty Hedge Spouses' Auxiliary Scholarship. First National Bank is now registering teams and sponsors for their 6th Annual ASPF Golf Tournament, which will be held on August 17, 2023, at the Paragould Country Club. We are also registering teams for the ASPF 2023 Lexus Champions of Charity Golf Tournament held on October 2, 2023, at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Little Rock. ASPF is fortunate to have board members organize these tournaments to support our scholarship fund.

Moving forward in the year, most of our fundraising dollars will support this scholarship that we know is a blessing to our Troopers and Auxiliary members. We have formed a committee that will be traveling to Northwest Arkansas this summer to meet with community members to secure donations and endowments for the scholarship fund.

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.

I look forward to attending the ASP Recruit Family Day on June 25, 2023, at Camp Robinson. We appreciate Steve Edwards sponsoring the lunch, and Farmer's Bank will cook.

We have been making a great effort to keep the ASP retirees in the loop with what's happening with ASPF. I feel ASP retirees are so important. They need to be respected and not forgotten. We are so thankful for their service.

As you can see, many exciting things are happening with ASPF, and we can't wait to see what the future holds in our efforts to support ASP.



Sincerely,
Frank Guinn

Chairman of the Board
Arkansas State Police Foundation
Cell: (870) 239-1901
Email: imas@grnco.net

-  aspfoundation.com
-  (501) 565-4661
-  arkansasstatepolicefoundation@gmail.com
PO Box 64, Kirby, AR 71950
-  5702 Dreher Lane, Suite 3
Little Rock, AR 72209-4811
- Office Hours:** Mon - Thu
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
In-person meetings by appointment only.
-  <https://www.facebook.com/aspfoundation/>



Executive Committee

- Frank Guinn, *Chairman*
- Cleveland Wilson, *Vice-Chair*
- Will Brewer, *Treasurer*
- Neely Camp, *Secretary*
- 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
- Butch Heath*
- Randy Hedge*
- Bill Humble
- Brooks Jackson
- 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*
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Advisory Council

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- 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

MURRAY BENTON

Born and raised in Helena, Benton is a third generation Petroleum Marketer. He just started his 36th year at Mid South Sales, headquartered in Jonesboro, where he serves as President.

Benton received his BA in Business Administration from Westminster College in Fulton, MO. Governor Asa Hutchinson appointed Benton to serve the remaining term of his father, Bill Benton Sr., on The ASP Commission these last two years.



Benton is a past board member of the Arkansas Oil Marketers Association and NEA Baptist Hospital in Jonesboro. He is currently serving on the boards of Partners Bank, Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation - Memphis, TN., Jonesboro Unlimited, and NEA Industrial Development Commission. He also enjoys serving at his church and other local ministries.

Benton is soon to celebrate his 36th wedding anniversary with Nancy. They have three children(Murray Jr, Meredith, and Maggie) and two grandchildren with one on the way in September! He looks forward to the opportunity to continue to serve and support the great men and women of the ASP.

New ASP LT. Colonel Spotlight

PLEASE WELCOME LT. COLONEL JASON AARON



Lt. Colonel Jason Aaron is a deputy director of the department and is the senior commander of all Arkansas State Police Field Operations, including the divisions of Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigation, and Crimes Against Children.

Lt. Colonel Jason Aaron was commissioned as an Arkansas State Trooper in 1998 and initially assigned to the department's Highway Patrol Division, Troop H (Crawford County). His subsequent promotions and assignments include promotion to the rank of sergeant in 2006, Troop H (Sebastian County), followed by a promotion in 2012 to the rank of lieutenant and assuming command of the department's Criminal Investigation Division, Company E headquartered at Harrison.

During 2014, he transferred as CID company commander, assuming duties at Company D, headquartered at Fort Smith. In 2016, he was promoted to captain and commanded the Highway Patrol Division, Troop H also headquartered at Fort Smith. On December 1, 2019, Lt. Colonel Aaron was promoted to Major earning command of the Arkansas State Police Highway Patrol Division, Eastern Region encompassing six troops, Troops A – F.

Lt. Colonel Aaron holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Central Arkansas. Other significant credentials earned during his career as an Arkansas State Trooper include accreditation as a graduate from the Arkansas Criminal Justice Institute, School of Law Enforcement Supervision, and the school's Leader program. He is also a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Command College, the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, and the 283rd session of the FBI National Academy.

Trooper Retiree Spotlight

JR HOWARD

JR Howard was born in Fayetteville and raised in Madison County. He graduated Huntsville High School in 1965. He attended the U of A in Fayetteville where he obtained a BS in Agriculture. He went on to teach Chemistry and Physical Science at his Alma Mater (HHS). Howard joined the US Army in July of 1970 and later transitioned to the Army/Air Force National Guard as a Military Police Officer until 1976.



Howard joined the Arkansas State Police in May 1971. He began his career with ASP in Highway Patrol Troop H, transferred to CID where he became a Sergeant in October of 1978, transferred to LR HQ in January of 1999 where he promoted to Lieutenant, promoted to Captain in 2000 as Commander of Western Division CID, promoted to Major in 2002 as CID Commander, and retired in December of 2004 as Commander of the three enforcement divisions.

He attended ALETA in July of 1971, FBI SWAT school in Quantico, VA in January of 1976, FBT National Academy in 1998.

After his retirement he served as the Director of the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory from 2004-2007, was a US Marshal in the Eastern District of Arkansas from 2007-2010 and served as Director of ASP from 2011-2012.

Since his final retirement from ASP, he served on the Searcy City Council from 2013-2018 and still serves on the Central Arkansas Drug Task Force Board since 2015.



Howard is married to his wife, Kathy Howard, who is a retired professor with Harding University. He has two daughters, Lindsey Bell who is an attorney for First Security Bancorp in Searcy and Leigh Howard who is an Infectious Disease Pediatrician at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital in Nashville, TN. He has two grandchildren Johnny Bell who is 16 years old and Katy Jane Bell who is 14 years old.

Howard's most memorable events of his law enforcement career include being a member of the team that investigated and arrested the "Blue Light Rapist", being a member of the team that cleared a 25 year old case involving the murder of a police officer, spending a day at the FBI Academy with the then Prince Hussein who is now King Abdullah II of Jordan, and cleaning former President Jimmy Carter's shotgun after a duck hunt in Jackson County.

Howard's proudest moment of his career was when a kidnapped victim who had just been rescued by the Arkansas State Police and other Law Enforcement Agencies made the statement "I knew I was going to die, I just didn't know when. Then I saw that Arkansas State Police Car and I knew then everything was going to be okay."

Howard now enjoys traveling with family, aggravating grandkids, flying and shooting.



New Badges Not Unfamiliar

Corporals and above are once again proudly wearing the original Arkansas State Police Rangers badge thanks to a combined effort of \$67,000 in personal financial contributions made by the Arkansas State Police Foundation Board of Directors. First to wear these badges were the original 13 men hired in 1935.

The Arkansas State Police was built upon rich tradition and these new badges pay tribute to the sacrifices and successes of the first to serve our great state.

On March 19th of 1935, Governor J.M. Futrell and the Arkansas General Assembly approved and signed into law Act 120, known as the Chrip-Carter bill, and the Arkansas State Police was born.

The first men to be empowered in Arkansas with statewide law enforcement duties and responsibilities were known as Rangers. Governor Junius Marion Futrell described these Rangers as "gentlemen, incorruptible, highly intelligent, good judge of human nature, self-possessed, good listener, not too talkative, and independent by environment and nature..."

As the years passed and the organization grew, these Rangers would later be called Troopers. Arkansas now has 12 Troops across our state and continues to bring officers in from other states because of the reputation that has been earned and protected over the years.



Woody Futrell; grandson of Governor J.M. Futrell, holds his grandfather's picture of when he signed the bill approving the creation of the Rangers.



ASPF Board Member Woody Futrell & Corporal David Hamilton, Troop G





ARKANSAS STATE POLICE
FOUNDATION

Fundraising Opportunities



Presented by:
FARMERS BANK
FOUNDATION

ARKANSAS STATE POLICE FOUNDATION **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Friday, June 30, 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

ASPF COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER

Cookbook is
completed and in the
printing stage!

*All proceeds will go to the
ASPF Scholarship Fund.*

**More details about the
fundraiser to come in the future.**

*Swing
for the
Green*



*Benefit
the
Blue*



First National Bank

PRESENTS THE

6TH ANNUAL ASPF Golf Tournament

**THURSDAY | AUGUST 17, 2023
PARAGOULD COUNTRY CLUB**

For registration and sponsorship info,
visit fnbank.net/aspf



Auxiliary Member Spotlight

APRIL EXUM

Hello, my name is April Exum. I am the spouse of Troop C's Lieutenant Michael Exum. Lt. Exum and I have been married for 22 years. We are the proud parents of twin, Jayden (girl) and Kaleb (boy), who just graduated high school this past May. I have been a member of the ASP family since 2001. In my spare time I love to go to the lake, spend time with my family and friends and watch anything sports related.

April is also the Decal Contest Winner!

April sold 35 decals to win 1st place in the decal contest. Chairman Frank Guinn surprised her with a brand new Hobo wallet to recognize her hard work.

Still need a decal? We have more!

While the contest may be over, the ASPF still has decals left if anyone still wants one. They are \$100 per decal and can be used as a tax write off. Contact Statewide President Emily Hamilton to request additional decals.



Troop F Pink Tomato Festival 5K





Troop A Family Day

Troop A hosted their first Family Day in several years on Sunday June 11th at the new ASP Driving Track. Families enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs while visiting with each other, competing in a cornhole tournament and riding bicycles around the track. Sgt. Gunnett even took them to the tower to see the best view of the track.



Troop C/Company F Family Day

Troop C/Company F rented Grandslam Entertainment in Brookland on Saturday June 10th for their family day event. They set up tents outside to sit under and stay cool, between outdoor games such as baggo and can jam. Inside they enjoyed bounce houses, air hockey and visiting with each other. The Auxiliary provided pizza, drinks, and desserts.



Bad Boy Mower Raffle Winner

RANDY LANN,
ASPF BOARD MEMBER

The Bad Boy Mower Raffle drawing was held May 18, directly after the ASPF Board Meeting. Approximately \$20,000 was raised towards the ASPF Scholarship Fund. Thank you to everyone who sold and bought tickets!

Donated by:



Pictured from Left to Right:
Emily Hamilton - ASPF Executive Director, Randy Lann - Raffle Winner,
Patti Cannon - Board Member

Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 - ASP ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY & LUNCHEON

The luncheon will begin at 10:30 am and be held at the Camp Robinson Professional Education Center.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30 - ASP RECRUIT FAMILY DAY

This event will be held at Camp Robinson. We appreciate Steve Edwards sponsoring the food for lunch, and Farmer's Bank for cooking lunch.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30 - 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, JULY 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.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 - ASPF GOLF TOURNAMENT

First National Bank Paragould Golf Tournament. Visit fnbank.net/aspf for more information.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2 - ASPF GOLF OUTING

ASPF Golf Outing at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Little Rock, AR. Contact the ASPF Office for more information.