



October 2005

# The TROOPER

The Official Newsletter of the Georgia Department of Public Safety



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# Colonel's Corner



*Colonel Bill Hitchens, Commissioner*

**A**s you are all aware, the Georgia State Patrol sent 44 troopers to Louisiana to lend a helping hand in the day-to-day enforcement duties after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. What you may not know is that since we left Louisiana we have received several accolades via e-mail and written correspondence commending our troopers for their professionalism and compassion that was displayed during their two-week detail.

Many of these troopers left their families to help other families in need. It is a tremendous honor to serve as the Commissioner of such a great and honorable group of men and women. It is one I do with great pleasure. Lt. Bill Bryant, who served as the officer in charge, and Capt. Richard Ashmore, who served as our liaison in the Louisiana Emergency Operations Center, are to be commended for their coordination and leadership.

For those of you who offered your homes to Louisiana troopers and their families, you are also to be commended for opening not only your homes, but your heart. It is always comforting to know that your fellow law enforcement officers, whether in your own state or across state lines, will always be there in times of crisis. I believe that the state of Georgia, through the great deeds of not only its citizens but of its law enforcement agencies, have shown to Louisiana and the nation our great heart and southern hospitality.

## *A Message from the Lt. Colonel*

On behalf of the entire department, I would like to commend our state troopers who provided relief assistance to the Louisiana State Police during the weeks in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. When the call for volunteers went out, the response was overwhelming despite the challenges that would be faced and the sacrifices that would be made. For that, we are truly grateful for the fortitude and the compassion that all of you displayed during this time of loss and desperation.

Under the leadership of Lt. Bill Bryant, commander of the SWAT Team, and the advance coordination efforts of Capt. Richard Ashmore in the Planning Unit, troopers assisted in 75 missions including escort details and search and rescue. We continue to receive accolades for the professionalism and integrity displayed while in Louisiana.

In the unfortunate scenario that a disaster of such magnitude should happen to the citizens of Georgia, it is without question that our fellow officers in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama will be there to assist us because of your great deeds. Again, thank you for all that you have done on behalf of the department and for those affected by Hurricane Katrina.



*Lt. Colonel Arthur White*



# GSP Troopers Assist Louisiana in Aftermath of Katrina

The state of Georgia sent 44 state troopers along with 40 Natural Resource rangers, 11 GBI agents and 10 corrections officers to Louisiana to assist with law enforcement duties in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The convoy of state law enforcement officers left for Hammond, Louisiana the morning of Sept. 4.

During this detail, 75 daily missions were completed including general law enforcement duties, escort detail and search and rescue. At least 105 bodies were recovered, 50 search and rescues, 23 evacuations and over 100 escorts of people, equipment and supplies. In addition to the hours of manpower provided on a day-to-day basis, several GSP troopers, during their off-duty hours, provided additional assistance in clean up and recovery efforts to Louisiana's Troop L, primarily in the Inman area.



The following troopers should be commended for their worthwhile efforts:

Lt. Col. Arthur White  
Capt. Curtis Daniel  
Capt. Richard Ashmore  
Lt. Bill Bryant (SWAT)  
Lt. Donnie Smith (Troop E)  
SFC J. L. Johnson (Post 21)  
SFC Jon Long (Post 11)  
SFC K. L. Canup (Post 48)  
SFC Carl L. Taylor (Post 31)  
Sgt. Don Whittaker (Post 13)  
Sgt. S. A. Woodell (Post 12)  
Sgt. K. L. Collins (Post 20)  
Sgt. Danny Blevins (Post 28)  
Cpl. Marvin Prince (Lt. Col. Ofc.)  
Cpl. Daniel Fagan (Safety Ed.)

Cpl. Ritchie Howard (Post 25)  
Cpl. Mike Maynard (Post 44)  
TFC J. T. Purcell (Post 36)  
TFC Dale Roberts (Post 1)  
TFC J. C. Roberts (Post 14)  
TFC Brian Stewart (Post 15)  
TFC Charles Parker (Post 17)  
S/Tpr. K. F. Sapp (Post 18)  
TFC R. Jeter (Post 2)  
TFC W. L. Hutchinson (Post 19)  
TFC Brad Thompson (Post 26)  
TFC K. R. Holloway (Post 27)  
TFC Ben Taylor (Post 23)  
TFC Larry Cowell (Post 3)  
TFC Jason Ellis (Post 30)

TFC J. T. Purcell (Post 36)  
TFC J. A. Caldwell (Post 37)  
TFC Michael Diggs (Post 38)  
S/Tpr. D. L. Benton (Post 40)  
Tpr. Justin Tabor (Post 41)  
TFC Joey Mock (Post 42)  
TFC Jonathan Parker (Post 5)  
TFC R. L. Sawyer (Post 45)  
TFC John Cronin (Post 46)  
TFC Nathan Truitt (Post 47)  
TFC D. Crozier (Post 48)  
TFC Joe Gass (Post 5)  
TFC J. A. Barrett (Post 6)  
TFC Barry S. Smith (SCRT)  
S/Tpr. Tim Brock (SCRT)

## DPS Welcomes Special Investigations Director, Russell Parry



Russ Parry began his law enforcement career with the U.S. Border Patrol in 1971. In 1975, he was promoted to Supervisory Special Agent with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) at the Washington, D.C. field office. In 1979, he was detailed to the International Police Organization (INTERPOL), U.S. Department of Justice where he served as Assistant Chief until 1991. In 1992, Parry returned to INS and was later transferred to Atlanta where he was assigned to the Organized Crime Drug Task Force with the U.S. Attorney's Office until he retired in 2002.

Shortly after his retirement, Parry worked as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Justice, National Drug Intelligence Center where he collected and coordinated strategic drug intelligence information from Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies.

Parry has also served four years with the U.S. Marine Corps and 16 years with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve.

Parry is a life member with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) where he served on the IACP Advisory Committee for International Policy Review. He is also an active member of the Georgia Chiefs of Police and serves as a board member with the Atlanta METROPOL.

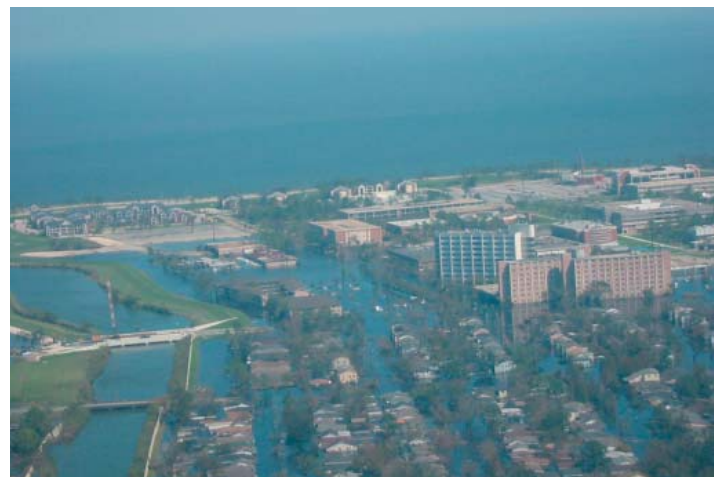
Parry received his undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from Georgia State University. He is the proud father of five boys and the husband to Lyla. Parry and his wife reside in Fayetteville.

# —HURRICANE—





# KATRINA





# RELIEF





# DETAIL





## Around Georgia ...

### Griffin Honors Trooper Lumley with a Memorial Dedication



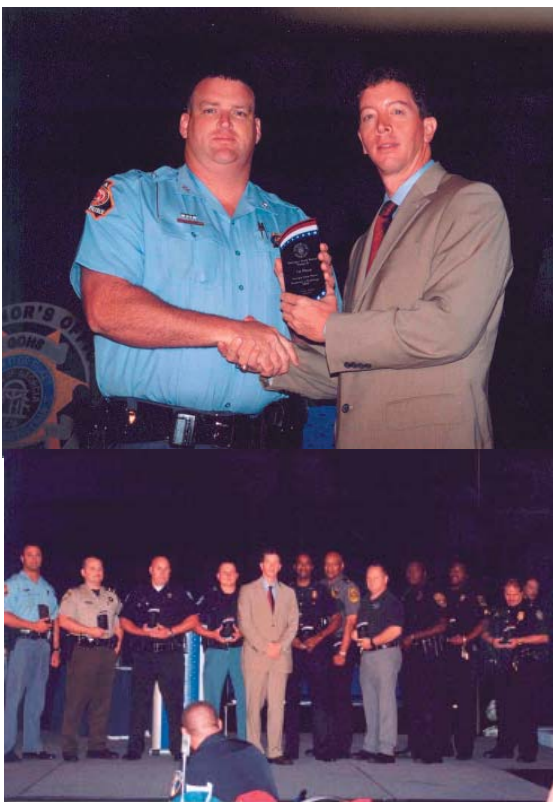
Col. Bill Hitchens, Post Commander John T. Waldrop and other Post 1, Griffin personnel surround a memorial comprised of a bronze trooper hat and marble bench dedicated to Trooper Tony M. Lumley, #799.

### 82nd Trooper School Prepares Its Future Troopers



Lt. Col White performs a swearing-in ceremony for the cadets of the 82nd Trooper School at the Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth.

## 2005 GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE AWARDS



*Clockwise:* Troop A (Lt. Jason Blackmon) received first place for the Georgia State Patrol award recognizing their enforcement efforts; Troop C (Lt. Soffie Thigpen) received 2nd place and Troop D received 3rd Place (not shown); Trooper Craig Singletary (Post 31, Valdosta) performed along with his musical group which includes his brother and two cousins; and the GOHS H.E.A.T. Team was nationally recognized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) by receiving 3rd Place in the Multi-Jurisdictional category.

