



PATROL NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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Col. Al Lubker

I want to tell you of a new organization being formed for the Missouri State Highway Patrol. The organization is called MASTERS (Missouri Association of State Troopers Emergency Relief Society). It is a non-profit corporation officially known as the Missouri State Highway Patrol Benevolent Benefit Fund, Incorporated. MASTERS' concern is for the immediate surviving members of any uniformed Missouri Highway Patrol member killed in the line of duty.

The founders of MASTERS are three men who have been good friends of the Missouri State Highway Patrol for many years - Mr. Fred Weber, Jr., Mr. Thomas Graham and Mr. Christopher Graham. These gentlemen have a sincere love and honest respect for our organization. Mr. Weber has been a personal friend to many of our officers for years. His father was also a good friend of the Highway Patrol. Mr. Graham sponsored the Patrol's retirement bill when he was Speaker of the Missouri House of Representatives. Mr. Graham's son, Christopher, has always shown a deep interest in our organization. All three men have spent many personal hours working on the formation of MASTERS. Their enthusiastic and dedicated attitude toward this program has touched me deeply. Governor Joseph P. Teasdale is the Honorary Chairman of MASTERS, and has informed me that he will cooperate in any way possible to see that this program is successful.

Here is how MASTERS will work: In the event that a uniformed officer is killed in the

From the SUPERINTENDENT'S Desk

line of duty, MASTERS will provide certain financial benefits to the officer's immediate family survivors. The surviving family member (wife or husband) will receive a sum of money, hopefully \$3,000.00, for any immediate expenses. If requested, MASTERS will provide the survivors with advisors to safeguard any financial interests. A goal of MASTERS is to also pay off all personal debts such as on the home, the car and furniture that the officer may have incurred. MASTERS also plans to provide scholarship benefits to the surviving children after high school to the age of 23. Each child would also receive \$2,000.00 at the age of 21. There are still other benefits too numerous to mention here.

Where will MASTERS get the funds for this program? The funds will come from good citizens. A MASTERS membership drive is presently underway throughout the State. A member of the Board of Directors of MASTERS is presently working in each of the Highway Patrol's nine troop areas and in the General Headquarters area soliciting members to MASTERS on a personal recommendation basis. Membership for a year is \$120.00. The MASTERS fund will receive \$100.00, with the remaining amount going for operational expenses of the

program. The \$100.00 is tax deductible. As of this writing, there are over 200 memberships committed with a goal of 600 members set by the end of this year. Those persons selected for membership will be law abiding citizens with a sincere interest in the program. Active uniformed members of our agency, by the way, cannot be members as it is their survivors that MASTERS is designed to help.

All officers of MASTERS are donating their time and services. The names of these good citizens who have volunteered to serve on the Board of Directors of MASTERS can be found elsewhere in this publication. Should you have the occasion to meet these fine people, a word of sincere thanks from you would certainly be in order.

It is difficult to express in words my heartfelt appreciation for these men who have taken it upon themselves to create and organize this non-profit corporation. Certainly their sincere admiration for the Missouri Highway Patrol is a result of the high professionalism shown by members of our organization down through the years. I want to thank them for the MASTERS program and know that you join me in promising continued professional service to the citizens of Missouri.



MASTERS - Colonel Al Lubker, Highway Patrol Superintendent, and Mr. Fred Weber, Jr., on the right, are shown discussing the MASTERS Program. Mr. Weber is a founder of MASTERS.

DIRECTORS - General Headquarters, Thomas Graham, Jefferson City; **Troop A**, Alex M. Petrovic, Kansas City; **Troop B**, Willie S. Barton, Clarence; **Troop C**, Fred Weber, Jr., St. Louis; **Troop D**, Jack E. Lipscomb, Springfield; **Troop E**, Ed Braschler, Poplar Bluff; **Troop F**, Christopher Graham, Jefferson City; **Troop G**, W.L. Hutchings, Willow Springs; **Troop H**, Dr. Robert P. Foster, Maryville; **Troop I**, Paul Schultz, Waynesville.