Auxiliary Provides Extra Set of Eyes

The Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary is a voluntary organization designed to help Troopers. They are an extra set of hands and eyes that make a trooper feel a little more secure.

The auxiliary was established as a result of a meeting held in Tampa on January 15, 1954. Those attending the meeting were Colonel H. N. Kirkman, Director of the Highway Patrol; Frank Falsome of Tampa and Attorney Ed Bently of Lakeland, both past Commanders of Florida American Legion; Past District Commander Robert A. Francis, Sr.; Mr. Roland Johnson and several members of the patrol. A resolution was drafted to form an Auxiliary program and was presented to the 1954 American Legion Convention. The resolution was approved and on October 28, 1954, Captain J. L. Hall, Training Officer of the Patrol, met with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Francis in St. Petersburg and plans were made to begin recruitment and training of units in St. Petersburg, Orlando, Jacksonville, Miami, Pensacola and Tallahassee. Since that time the Auxiliary has grown to 40 units.

An act authorizing the Director of the Florida Highway Patrol to establish an Auxiliary composed of volunteers was passed in the 1957 Legislature and signed by Governor Leroy Collins on May 14, 1957. The American Legion was helpful in getting this legislation passed.

Within the Organization there is a Council of Administration, composed of members of the Auxiliary who are Troop Commanders with the rank of Major and Executive Officers (Captains), which meets twice a year for administrative purposes. The Council handles liaison matters between the Auxiliary and the Florida Highway Patrol. It also adopts resolutions for policy changes which must be approved by the Director of the patrol.

On June 9, 1972, the policy was changed so that it was no longer necessary to be a member of the American Legion. Present requirements for membership are: two (2) years honorable military service, or three (3) years post high school work experience, or 60 semester hours of college work, age 19 to 55, high school diploma or equivalent, doctors certificate as to physical fitness and certification by the Police Standards and Training Commission for the successful completion of a 97 hour course of instruction.

Officers must purchase their own uniforms, and they receive no compensation for the many hours they work. A monthly activity report is submitted by each unit showing total hours in classroom, special details and riding patrol with troopers. There are currently over 750 active members who contribute over 180,000 hours annually assisting the Florida Highway Patrol.

The Auxiliary is more than just a support group for the Patrol. It is also a pool for potential troopers. Almost every recruit class has one or more people who have been members of the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary has given its support to the Patrol for 28 years and there is no way of telling how many troopers' lives may have been saved just by the presence of someone from the Auxiliary.
OKALOOSA UNIT TROOP A

PANAMA CITY UNIT TROOP A
PENSACOLA UNIT TROOP A

MARIANNA UNIT TROOP A
PINELLAS PARK UNIT TROOP C

LAKE WALES UNIT TROOP C
WINTER HAVEN UNIT TROOP C

TAMPA UNIT TROOP C
BROOKSVILLE UNIT TROOP C

BREVARD COUNTY UNIT TROOP D
LAKE COUNTY UNIT TROOP D

OSCEOLA UNIT TROOP D
VOLUSIA-FLAGLER UNIT TROOP D

DADE COUNTY UNIT TROOP E
**BROWARD COUNTY UNIT TROOP E**


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**BRADENTON UNIT TROOP F**

FORT MYERS UNIT TROOP F

HIGHLAND COUNTY UNIT TROOP F
ST. JOHNS/PUTNAM UNIT TROOP G

Back Row: Cpl. C. L. Tomlinson, David Reed, Cpl. Dick Reid, Sgt. Sam Carter, Langford Williams,
Ron Vermeulen, Billy J. Clemants and C. Harnage

JACKSONVILLE UNIT TROOP G

D. R. Church, V. J. Allen, R. W. Smith, B. L. Lancaster, C. Farr and M. Crider.
OCALA UNIT TROOP G

NASSAU COUNTY UNIT TROOP G
Front Row: William Ryals, Joseph Crews, William Harden, Sr. and Edward Creel, Back Row: Perry Williams, Wesley Dover, Daniel Peacock and Charles Haney
WEST PALM BEACH UNIT TROOP L

FT. PIERCE UNIT TROOP L