**8th Annual Gold Star Awards Luncheon**

**Today’s Program**

**March 28, 2007**

**Opening**

Ms.  Holly Wayt, ENP, President Ohio Chapter of APCO

      Communications Manager, City of Westerville

**Honor America**

Posting of the Colors –  Wayne County Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard

National Anthem – Mr. Mel Meloy, ENP

      Communications Supervisor, Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office

**Invocation**

Dublin Police Chaplain Steve Norden

      New Hope Church in Powell, Ohio

**Lunch**

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Mr. William Hinkle

      Director, Hamilton County Communications Center

**Keynote Speaker**

Mr. Peter D. Banks

Director of Training and Outreach for the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

**Sponsor Recognition**

Mr. Greg Wenz, ENP, Chair - Ohio Gold Star Awards Program,

      Operation Director—Hamilton County Communications Center

**Award Presentations—**

Mr. Jay Somerville, Emcee

Technical Services Bureau Commander, City of Dublin Police Communications

Awards Presenter: Representative Larry L . Flowers, Franklin County

      Awards:

          Gold Star Certificates

          Double Gold Awards - Dispatch Teams

          Solid Gold  Awards-

          2006 Ohio Telecommunicator of the Year Award

**Benediction**

Chaplain Steve Norden

**Closing**

“God Bless America”  Mr. Mel Meloy, Communications Supervisor Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office

**Seated at the Head Table:  Chaplin Steve Norden, Monte Diegel, Holly Wayt,  Mr. Peter Banks,** **William Hinkle, Representative Larry Flowers**

                                                      

            Thank you all for attending.  We welcome you to the 2006 Gold Star Awards Program.  It is with great pleasure that the Ohio Chapters of NENA and APCO welcome the recipients of the Gold Star Awards and their guests.  We are extremely proud of each nominee and the work they do every single day.  Making a selection of this type is very difficult since all the telecommunicators in the State do an outstanding job.  Every telecommunicator has handled calls during the year that would be award winning.  Additionally, their dedication and the service they provide to the public on a daily basis makes everyone in the State of Ohio a winner.

              We extend a special thanks to the 2006 Gold Star Awards Committee who have worked hard to prepare for today’s event.  They have devoted much time and energy to make this special recognition a success.  We thank the supervisors and administrators for all the superb nominations that they offered.

              We also want to acknowledge the corporate sponsors for their generous financial support of the Gold Star Program, as well as for their continuous support for Ohio NENA and APCO.

              To all the nominees, on behalf of NENA and APCO, we offer our sincere congratulations, appreciation, and thanks for jobs well done.

Sincerely,

***Monte Diege        Holly Wayt***

Monte Diegel                                        Holly Wayt

President,                                                President,

Ohio Chapter NENA                             Ohio Chapter APCO

**Ohio NENA Board**

President

**Monte Diegel, Mercer County Sheriff’s Office Central Dispatch**

Vice President

**Kim Brandt, Van Wert County 9-1-1**

Secretary

**Rose Chambers, Wood County Sheriff’s Office**

Treasurer

**Valerie DeRose, Summit County Emergency Management**

**Ohio Chapter of APCO, Executive Board**

President

**Holly E. Wayt, City of Westerville Communications**

1st Vice President

**Matt Franke, City of Oxford Police**

2nd Vice President

**Mel Meloy, Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office**

Secretary/Treasurer

**Danielle J. Klavinger, Lucas County Emergency Services**

Executive Council Representative

**Lynne Feller, Wayne County Justice Center**

The Gold Star Awards committee would like to thank the following

people for their support and participation in the program.

**Mr. Peter D. Banks**

**State Representative Larry Flowers**

**Chaplain Steve Norden**

**Mr. Mel Meloy**

**The Gold Star Selection Committee**

**Ms. Holly Wayt**

**Mr. Monte Diegel**

**Mr. Jay Somerville**

**Mr. Brad Brubaker**

                                                                                     

**Ohio’s Gold Star Award Program for**

**Telecommunicators**

The Ohio Chapters of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) and the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, International (APCO) have worked together to recognize the outstanding work performed by public-safety communications personnel in Ohio.  A few years ago both Chapters saw a critical need for some positive recognition and acknowledgement of the fine work that is performed by the State’s communications professionals.   Our goal was to publicly express appreciation, and to recognize both outstanding individual and team performance and consistent, steadfast leadership.  Both of the Chapters are proud to present The Ohio 9-1-1 Gold Star Awards program.  Because Telecommunicators work in the background, behind the lights, sirens and cameras, they are sometimes overlooked for their critical role in public safety.  APCO and NENA have worked in concert to promote and recognize outstanding performance in the dispatch centers around Ohio.  Thank you for joining us today to show your appreciation for these dedicated and hard working individuals.

***The Gold Star Award Committee***

**2006 Gold Star Certificates**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Robin S. Case**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Medina Post

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Coleen Foss**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Ashland Post

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Pamela J. Hershberger**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Marion Post

**Dispatch Supervisor Doug Houtz**

Wood County Sheriff’s Office

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Erica Lanning**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Lancaster Post

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Scott A. Robenalt**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Norwalk Post

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Jennifer J. Scott**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Bucyrus Post

**Dispatcher Kris Vitale**

Fairfield Police Department

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Terry L. Whitlock**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Fremont Post

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Kevin A. Yoder**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Wooster Post

**2006 Double Gold Awards**

**TEAM AWARD WINNERS**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Findley & Walbridge Posts

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Denise L. Duerk**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Cheryl L. Babione**

Wood County Sheriff’s Office

**Dispatch Supervisor Nancy Hurst**

**Dispatcher Paulette Badgett**

For outstanding performance March 25, 2006 during an incident that began as a fake ID situation that evolving to shots fired, a person thrown out of a vehicle, pursuit, car jacking, kidnapping and an exchange of gun fire between officers and suspects.

**Nominees:**

**Delaware Police Department**

Dispatcher Teresa Gladden

Dispatcher Judy Fitzgerald

Dispatcher Kimberly Romero-Curren

**Loudonville Police Department**

Dispatcher Sharon Strimple

Dispatcher Melnee Kitchen

Dispatcher Jennifer Hatfield

Dispatcher Jennifer Pearce

**Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office**

Dispatcher Joe Morris

Dispatcher Beth Whipple

Dispatcher Melissa Locke

**Van Wert Police Department and Van Wert County Sheriff’s Office**

Communications Officer Cathy Evans

Communications Officer Rachel Sullivan

**2006 Solid Gold Award**

OHIO 2006 TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR

Co-Winners

**E911 Operator Jeffrey Bradley**

Cincinnati Police Communications

January 14, 2006  For taking the time and extra effort to locate a 911 caller who was at the scene and witnessed a fatal shooting

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Sharon Collins**

Ohio State Highway Patrol – Columbus Communications Center



November 7, 2006  For professional and expertly handling a unique situation involving a subject on a Greyhound bus with a loaded gun.

**Nominees:**

Communications Officer Rod Smith

Van Wert County Sheriff’s Office

Highway Patrol Dispatcher Brian Gettinger

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Toledo Post

Highway Patrol Dispatcher Michelle D. Higgins

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Warren Post

Dispatcher Christina Daniels

Oregon Police and Fire

**Gold Star Awards Supporting Sponsors**

            The Gold Star Committee is extremely grateful to these companies for their sponsorship of the Ohio Gold Star Awards Program.  Their generosity allows the recognition of our Ohio heroes. Thank you very much.

**AT&T**

**DDTI, Inc**.

**EmergiTech**

**Intrado**

Time Warner Cable

**Today’s Lunch Includes:**

Garden Salad and Bread

Grilled Petite Filet Mignon

Caramelized Shallots and Cognac Demi Glace

Yukon Garlic Mash

Tobacco Onions

New York Cheese Cake with Fresh Strawberries

or

Chocolate Indulgence Cake with Raspberry Coulis and Chocolate Sauce