

## Deputy Waterways Conservation Officer Awards

Deputy Waterways Conservation Officers (DWCOs) perform specialized law enforcement work in fisheries and watercraft safety. Officers work long, varied hours, often on holidays and weekends, in all kinds of weather and in rough terrain. DWCOs receive a small allowance for some expenses, but not for all expenses, and they are otherwise not compensated for their work. Award-winners are nominated by their peers.

### Northwest Region Ronald C. Wygant

Deputy Waterways Conservation Officer (DWCO) Ronald C. Wygant (left) has served the sportsmen of Forest County for 26 years under four different district officers. During 2001, while there was no full-time officer (because of transfers), he maintained the district by attending to all the trout stocking and overseeing the proper distribution of fish during stocking. Presenting the award is Northwest Region Assistant Supervisor Frank Parise.



### Southwest Region Kenneth Pate

Since 1994, DWCO Pate (right) has volunteered hundreds of hours for boating and fishing activities. Ken demonstrates a very professional attitude toward the public when he is carrying out his responsibilities as a deputy. During boat boardings, Officer Pate is able to explain the reason for the stop clearly and what actions need to be corrected. He is able to leave the boater with a better understanding of safe boating.

Pollution/disturbance cases seem to be an enjoyable part of his position. Officer Pate is very knowledgeable about local sources of pollution and discharge sites. He knows the Department of Environmental Protection personnel on a first-name basis and has a reputation for his commitment to the resources in his district. Pictured with Pate is Southwest Regional Manager Emil Svetahor.



### Northeast Region Howard J. Morana

For the past six years, just about every weekend from March through September, you will find DWCO Morana on Beltzville and Mauch Chunk lakes or along the many trout streams and development lakes in his district. He has worked an average of 1,200 hours of law enforcement each year.

Officer Morana also assists with boating safety courses and with fishing and boating programs that are sponsored by Beltzville State Park. On many occasions he has handled trout stocking for his district.



## Southeast Region Carl S. Warner Jr.

DWCO Warner started his career with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission 16 years ago. Combined with a clear and concise understanding of the Fish and Boat Code, he uses very good discretion in all matters pertaining to law enforcement and is willing to go the extra mile to assist the public.

During 2001, he worked a total of 279 hours. He continually volunteers to work on weekends and holidays throughout the summer and is most dependable.



## Northcentral Region Lawrence E. Krest

For the past 22 years, Larry Krest (right) has served Clearfield County. Officer Krest was the first to prosecute a BUI (boating under the influence) case successfully.

During 2001 he dedicated 467 hours to the Commission. Some 25 hours of that time were directed to the county's youth field day. He taught hundreds of children how to canoe and how to save themselves and others in drowning emergencies. His program has become a highlight of the county's youth field day. Pictured with Krest is Northcentral Regional Manager Brian Burger.



## Southcentral Region Stanley L. Rhoads Sr.

For the last 35 years Stanley L. Rhoads Sr. (left) has been a deputy in Perry County. From January 1 to November 29, 2001, he worked over 520 hours for the Commission. Stanley is usually available on short notice and has a lot of good community contacts.

Officer Rhoads responded this summer when Juniata County 911 Center called him to report a pollution that was occurring. No other officers were available, so Officer Rhoads took his video camera and responded to the scene and followed the pollution to the source. Because of the evidence that was collected, Officer Britcher was able to enter into a settlement agreement with the responsible party. Officer Rhoads has been very active in trout stocking patrols and general patrols, and he has donated equipment to assist with patrols in his district. Pictured with Rhoads is Bureau of Law Enforcement Assistant to the Director George Geisler.

