**Program**

**Opening**

Mr. Jay Somerville, President Ohio Chapter of APCO,

Technical Services Bureau Commander,

City of Dublin Police Communications

**Honor America**

National Anthem – Mr. Mel Meloy, Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Mr. William Hinkle, Director, Hamilton County Communications Center

**Keynote Speaker**

State Representative Larry L. Flowers, Franklin County

**Invocation**

Dublin Police Chaplain Steve Norden

     New Hope Church in Powell, Ohio

**Lunch**

**Sponsor Recognition**

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

     Operation Director—Hamilton County Communications Center

**Award Presentations—**

Mr. Jay Somerville, Emcee

     Awards:

     Gold Star Certificates

     Double Gold Awards - Dispatch Teams

     Solid Gold Awards

     2005 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, Kim Brandt, Jay Somerville, Representative Larry Flowers, William Hinkle, Greg Wenz**

            We welcome you to the 2005 Gold Star Awards Program.  It is with great pleasure that the Ohio Chapters of APCO and NENA 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, the service they provide to the public on a daily basis makes everyone in the State of Ohio a winner.

              We extend special thanks to the 2005 Gold Star Awards Committee who has 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 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,

***Jay Somerville                  Monte Diegel***

Jay Somerville                      Monte Diegel

President,                               President,

          Ohio Chapter APCO          Ohio Chapter NENA

**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

**Jay Somerville, Dublin Division of Police**

1st Vice President

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

2nd Vice President

**Matt Franke, City of Oxford Police**

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.

**State Representative Larry Flowers**

**Chaplain Steve Norden**

**Mr. Mel Meloy**

**Public Safety Training Consultants**

**The Gold Star Selection Committee**

**Ms. Carol Armitage**

**Ms. Holly Wayt**

**Mr. Monte Diegle**

**Mr. Jay Somerville**

**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.  Several years ago both Chapters saw a critical need for some positive recognition and acknowledgement of the fine work that is performed by these 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 forgotten.  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***

**2005 Gold Star Certificates**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Melissa Baldwin**

Ohio State Highway Patrol – West Jefferson Post

**Communications Officer Joanne Barton**

Defiance County Communications Center

**911 Dispatcher Dawn Burns**

City of Fairfield Police Department

**Dispatcher Charlotte Cooper**

Delaware Police Department

**Communications Technician Dawn Cunningham**

Lancaster Police Department

**Emergency Operator Carmen Day**

City of Dayton Police Department

**Dispatcher Anne Duncan**

City of Mentor

**Dispatcher J. Barbara Harper**

City of Cleveland, Division of Police Communications

**Fire and EMS Dispatcher Patricia Hemmerick**

Dayton Fire Department

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Pamela Hershberger**

Ohio State Highway Patrol – Marion Post

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Pamela Kelly**

Ohio State Highway Patrol – Xenia Post

**Dispatcher Dan Kissling**

Oregon Police Department

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Rhonda Macarthy**

Ohio State Highway Patrol, Berea Post

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Brent Sigler**

Ohio State Highway Patrol – Bucyrus Post

**2005 Double Gold Awards**

**Team Award Winner**

**Lorain County 9-1-1**

**9-1-1 Dispatcher Donna Chopcinski**

**9-1-1 Dispatcher Melody Leisure**

**9-1-1 Dispatcher Kurt Scholl**

For outstanding performance on July 16, 2005 during severe flooding in Lorain County.  Three and one half inches of rain fell in one 30 minute period, resulting in hundreds of calls for help, people trapped in vehicles and twelve feet of water covered parts of the County.

**Nominees:**

**Cleveland Police Department, Communications**

**Dispatcher Diane Eck**

**Dispatcher Tracey Chipgus**

**Dublin Police Communications**

**Communications Technician Carolyn Fergus**

**Communications Technician Ben Karns**

**Ohio State Highway Patrol – Ravenna Post**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Heather Turner**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Blaine Decker**

**Ohio State Highway Patrol – Toledo Post**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Brian Gettinger**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher James Barlow**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Jennifer Sabin**

**Ohio State Highway Patrol – Walbridge**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Barbara Welsh**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Shirley Knitz**

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Cheryl Babione**

**Toledo Police 9-1-1**

**Communications Operator Moneick Alford**

**Communications Operator Angel Berente**

**Sergeant Deonn Bortel**

**Communications Operator Mary Lou Castilleja**

**Sergeant Phil Cook**

**Communications Operator Lucinda Craig**

**Communications Operator Deb Davidson**

**Communications Operator Teri Ellis**

**Communications Operator Chris Evans**

**Communications Operator Dawn Gaston**

**Communications Operator Christine Griffin**

**Communications Operator Eileen Herrick**

**Communications Operator Haylee Kaiser**

**Communications Operator Stephanie Lanoce**

**Communications Operator Tracy Lembke**

**Communications Operator Becki Niemiec**

**Communications Operator Jennifer Overcashier**

**Communications Operator Marsha Perry**

**Communications Operator Judy Plunkett**

**Communications Operator Dena Rieger**

**Communications Operator Janie Stiles**

**Communications Operator Diana Trevino**

**2005 Solid Gold Award**

OHIO 2005 TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Heather Turner**

**Ohio State Highway Patrol – Ravenna Post**

For excellence during a bizarre series of events that involved numerous shots fired at police, kidnapping, a burglary, assaults and three homicides, on January 21, 2005.



**Nominees:**

**Dispatcher Teresa Clark**

Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office

**Dispatcher Kimberlee Dalton**

Ontario Police Department

**Toledo Police 9-1-1 Operator Teri Ellis**

Toledo Police 9-1-1

**Lead Dispatcher Dawn Ellis-Whittemore**

Xenia/Green Central Communications Center

**Dispatcher Shannon Forrider**

Athens County Emergency Communications

**Communications Operator Vanessa Haley**

Clark County Sheriff’s Office

**Highway Patrol Dispatcher Adam Quinn**

Ohio State Highway Patrol – Delaware Post

**Communications Deputy Wendy Ritterbach**

Ottawa County Sheriff’s Office

**Communications Officer Rod Smith**

Van Wert County Sheriff’s Office

**Dispatcher Carolyn Sowell**

Joint Fire Dispatch Center

**Dispatcher Rick Spoor**

Van Wert Police Department

**Emergency Operator Stephanie Thoma**

**Dispatcher Jaclyn Tryon**

Ashtabula County Sheriff’s Office

**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.

**DDTI**

Nonspecific contribution

**EmergiTech**

Nonspecific contribution

**Intrado**

Nonspecific contribution

**Motorola**

Nominee’s shirts

       The following vendors also provided items for the nominees:

**DDTI, Inc**

**EmergiTech**

**InterAct**

**Public Safety Training Consultants**

**Vonage**

**Today’s Lunch Includes:**

Garden Salad and Rolls

Peppercorn Crusted Sirloin Medallions

Green Beans Almandine

Oven Roasted Red Skin Potatoes

New York Cheese Cake

or

Belgian Chocolate Mousse