



Officials Recognize Employees at Annual Awards Ceremony



Outstanding Performance Award recipients

Front row, from left to right: Terri Fazio, Waymart; Melanie Pyle, Somerset; Leslie Bradley, Cresson; Dr. Elaine Altoe, Retreat; Donna Platt, Laurel Highlands; and Bryan Boyer, Muncy.

Back row, from left to right: Gary Smith, Somerset; Charles Rishel, Central Office; Secretary John Wetzel; Troy Edwards, Muncy; and Pete Damiter III, Frackville.

Secretary Wetzel Talks About...

Exceptional Employees

On May 8, 2013, as part of "Corrections Employee Week in Pennsylvania," I led Department of Corrections' officials in honoring 15 employees for their outstanding performance, heroic actions and employee mentoring.

Each year, during Corrections Employee Week, we celebrate the commitment and dedication of our employees by presenting these awards. The ceremony, which has been held since the early 1980s, reminds corrections employees and the citizens of Pennsylvania that our employees are exceptional individuals who often do more than their jobs require.



Forty-two of the DOC's more than 15,000 employees were nominated for the awards.

Eleven individuals were awarded the DOC's Outstanding Performance Award. They are:

- Leslie Bradley, clerk stenographer 3, SCI Cresson, Cambria County
- Peter Damiter III, superintendent assistant, SCI Frackville, Schuylkill County
- Donna Platt, records specialist 2, SCI Laurel Highlands, Somerset County
- Bryan Boyer, captain, SCI Muncy, Lycoming County
- Troy Edwards, corrections counselor 2, SCI Muncy, Lycoming County
- Dr. Elaine M. Altoe, psychological services specialist, SCI Retreat, Luzerne County
- Gary L. Smith, lieutenant, SCI Somerset, Somerset County
- Melanie Pyle, acting classification program manager, SCI Somerset, Somerset County
- Terri Fazio, corrections school principal, SCI Waymart, Wayne County
- Ebony Frith, corrections counselor/acting center director, Erie CCC, Erie County
- Charles Rishel, architectural supervisor, DOC Bureau of Operations, Cumberland County

Two individuals received the DOC's Medal of Valor for heroic actions they performed. They are: Scott Slippey, lieutenant, Quehanna Boot Camp, Clearfield County; and Michael P. Glenn Sr., lieutenant, SCI Mercer, Mercer County.

SCI Coal Township's (Northumberland County) electronics skills occupational teacher Daniel S. O'ttaviani was presented with the Mentor of the Year Award; and the DOC's Thomas Fulcomer award was presented to Ulrich Klemm, who serves as the DOC's religion, volunteer and recreational services administrator.

This issue of "Correctional Newsfront" will highlight these employees.

Outstanding Performance Awards

Peter Damiter III, SCI Frackville

Pete Damiter serves as the superintendent's assistant at SCI Frackville. During his career, he has led the prison through three successful accreditations by the American Correctional Association. In addition to leading his own prison through this process, he has assisted other facilities in their ACA accreditation preparation. Pete, has participated in many mock ACA audits throughout the department, currently he is transitioning the accreditation process from one that is paper to an electronic format.

Pete also serves as the prison's public information officer and occasionally assists the Department's Press Office with various media-related duties and at various public relations events.

In addition to his many assigned job duties, Pete gives as much time as he can to the prison's Fire Emergency Response Team (FERT). He is a certified fire instructor and

officer and

provides instruction at the DOC's FERT Academies. He co-authored the original FERT program, and he volunteers his expertise in this area to his community, where he is an active member of the Friendship Fire Company in Frackville.

Pete was part of the committee that coordinated the prison's 25th anniversary celebration in 2012. He assisted with several fundraisers to raise the needed money to purchase specially-designed commemorative coins that were made to mark the occasion. He also arranged for interested prison retirees and current employees to receive the coins. As part of the celebration, Pete coordinated a special luncheon at the prison that was attended by community leaders and current and former employees. The celebrations served as a great morale booster and helped to remind employees of the prison's long and proud history and its promising future.



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A graduate of North Schuylkill Jr./Sr. High School and Penn State, Pete began his corrections career in 1993 as SCI Frackville's fire/safety manager. In 2004, he was promoted to superintendent's assistant. Pete serves as a field instructor for the Bucks County Community College and holds a dual employment as an adjunct instructor for the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy.

Pete has been married to his wife, Cindy, for 32 years. They have three children and four grandchildren.

Elaine M. Altoe, Psy.D., SCI Retreat

Dr. Elaine Altoe serves as a psychological services associate at SCI Retreat. She works in one of the busiest and most demanding departments in an institution and is well-known for her accessibility and competence by staff within and outside of her department. Her job requires her to be knowledgeable, discreet, discerning, interactive and conscientious in all that she does.

Elaine is described as the perfect blend of leader and foot soldier – knowing when to step in and direct and when to fall back and execute. She has assumed additional responsibilities while still completing all assigned tasks and job functions, such as Special Needs Unit psychologist and as the prison's mental health coordinator. Due to the year-long vacancy after the retirement of the prison's LPM, Elaine also has done an excellent job of compiling and submitting monthly reports to Central Office. She collaborates with her superiors at Central Office and is the recognized SCI Retreat liaison with psychiatry contract staff as well. Courses of treatment and intensive program placements have been decided based upon her trusted consultation. She is highly regarded by her peers and Central Office staff for her diligence, willingness to assume extra tasks and completing all takes without complaint or excuse.



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In addition to the requirements of her position, Elaine also freely gives of herself in elective roles for the betterment of others. For example, she has stepped up to volunteer for specialty teams that would benefit from her expertise, such as the prison's hostage negotiation team and the critical incident stress management team – both of which are deployable to any state location in the event of a crisis situation or disastrous event. She also offers countless hours to provide for the prison's mandatory suicide prevention training for employees. Elaine also has taken on the role of chairperson of the prison's facility character profile communications committee, helping to share information and improve morale throughout the facility.

She has accepted the challenge of bringing the concept of reentry to those who cannot make it happen on their own and who need it the most. She willingly, and of her own volition, assumed numerous and critical functions in an effort to assist mentally challenged inmates in a successful reentry into the community upon release from prison. Without her initiative, these duties would have gone undone and would have resulted in a disservice to those inmates as well as to the communities to which they were returning. Elaine has spent weeks calling county officials, case workers, support facilities and charity centers, helping hard-to-place offenders receive continuity of care after release from prison.

Elaine began employment with the DOC in April 2008 as a psychological services specialist at SCI Mahanoy. In July 2008, she was promoted and transferred to SCI Retreat as psychological services associate.

Prior to working for the DOC, Elaine served as a licensed clinician at Kids Peace, a consultant/mobile therapist for Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18, a clinical psychology internist with the Danville State Hospital, a trainer for the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work, a therapist at Evergreen Behavioral Treatment for Children; a semi-independent living coordinator, a school team caseworker and child protective intake worker for Luzerne County Children and Youth; an employment training specialist at United Rehabilitation Services; and a mental health worker and case manager/counselor at Northeast Counseling Services.

Elaine received a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in sociology from Wilkes University. She earned three master's degrees – in social work, public administration and clinical psychology. She was awarded a doctorate degree in psychology from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Philadelphia. Her graduate work led to a specialization certificate in criminal justice and a license in social work. She continues her studies to obtain her licensure as a clinical psychologist.

In the community, she has a history of serving on task forces and local and regional committees for the Department of Public Welfare.

A member of numerous professional organizations, Elaine is committed to her chosen profession and her willingness to serve in any capacity in which she can benefit others makes her "part of the solution" and truly worthy of this award.

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Terri Lee Fazio, SCI Waymart

Terri Fazio serves as the school principal at SCI Waymart. In this capacity she has assisted the prison administration by serving as a member of the accreditation committee, the local empowerment and symposium committees, serves as the prisons public information officer and is presently the chairperson for the prison's Corrections Employee Week celebration.

She has provided support and leadership to education staff and other institutional staff. She functions as the chief administrator for the GED at Waymart and as such has volunteered to assist other prisons in the administration of their GED testing when their

principal positions were vacant. Terri led Waymart in receiving a 100 percent compliance rating during its Correction Education Association reaccreditation audit. The prison was compliant with all 67 CEA standards. As a result of her expertise in this process, she has functioned as a member of the state CEA team, streamlining the accreditation process for use by other institutions as well as the DOC's Bureau of Correction Education.

Along with all of her other accomplishments, she participated in and completed the Pennsylvania Criminal Justice Executive Institution – a professional training program for criminal justice executives. Terri also is the co-chair of the End of Life Care Committee at the prison and part of the prison's Mentoring Committee. Finally, she is assisting with her son's confirmation class.

Terri began her corrections career 22 years ago as a part-time teacher at SCI Waymart and, as a result of her performance, was selected and placed in a full-time teaching position. During her classroom tenure, she provided instruction to inmates assisting them in the achievement of their GEDs. During her 16th year of employment, she was promoted to school principal.



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Donna Platt, SCI Laurel Highlands

Donna Platt serves as a records specialist 2 at SCI Laurel Highlands. As you may imagine, with only three records specialists, her office is very busy. While Donna consistently earns commendable performance ratings and is a well-respected role model, there is much more to Donna than her evaluation would tell you.

For example, two years ago a player on Donna's son's pee-wee football team was diagnosed with a rare disorder that was affecting his sight. Austin needed treatment in Ohio but family money was tight. Starting with a \$50 allowance from her church in Johnstown, Donna spearheaded a benefit basket party that eventually led to a donation of \$10,000 to the family.



Donna is very active with her church in many ways. She drives the church van Sunday mornings to transport those who can't drive themselves. She taught Sunday school for many years and participates in community service projects doing maintenance work for the elderly members. Finally, she is a member of the church's drama team that goes to other churches performing skits and plays.

The morale at SCI Laurel Highlands is usually thought of as good, and Donna plays a key role in keeping it that way. Last summer 65 employees and their family members participated in the Somerset Daily American's 5K-10K race. Donna organized the prison's team, "The Gate Keepers," and hopes to have even more participants this year. Fifty-three prison employees are currently involved in a "Biggest Loser" contest, organized by you-know-who... Donna. Last summer when the prison's golf committee needed a volunteer coordinator, staff turned to Donna. Through her efforts the tournament raised \$2,600 for the local hospice.

And if that isn't enough, in February she helped raise money for the Special Olympics by taking the Polar Bear plunge into an icy Quemahoning Lake. The theme for the prison's February bowling tournament was "Beat Donna Platt and win 75 cents." She bowled a 191 and no one beat her, but a great time was had by all.

Donna began her corrections career at SCI Laurel Highlands in March 2007. Prior to her employment with the DOC, she provided clerical support for Windber Builders Supply and worked as a therapeutic activity aide for Bedford-Somerset MH/MR.

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When asked how she would feel about being nominated for this award, Donna responded with, "Okay, but if it doesn't work out that will be fine. I'm just glad you thought of me." According to her superintendent, "If we all had the attitude of humility and servitude that Donna does, even Somerset would feel like the tropics."

Melanie Pyle, SCI Somerset

Melanie Pyle serves as the acting corrections classification program manager at SCI Somerset and has been an integral part of the operations at the prison since beginning her employment with the DOC. She has developed improved procedures that have resulted in increased productivity and efficiency by establishing a clerical pool for the unit teams. At a time when the staff complement of unit clerks was less than adequate, Melanie was instrumental in organizing the restructuring of the available clerks to maintain a high level of services to the units. She was involved in establishing new work stations, changing the physical layout of the area to accommodate additional clerks, implementing new procedures for work flow and providing effective supervision of the clerks. This has improved the efficiency of the unit work and increased productivity.

Melanie also has compiled an extensive counselor manual for current and new counselors. She has an extensive knowledge base which she never hesitates to share with anyone who seeks her assistance. Having served as a corrections counselor on the special needs unit and on the outside clearance/pre-release unit and a unit manager, Melanie has a substantial knowledge base of unit management. Many of her co-workers seek her opinion, direction and guidance.

During implementation of Act 122, Melanie orchestrated a comprehensive plan which identified inmates who were going to be affected and in what way. She then met with each inmate to assess their attitude to ensure the least amount of disruption and anxiety among the inmate population. She would work beyond her shift to accomplish this tasks. Throughout the entire process, she maintained open communication with her respective unit security and counseling staff. Her effective and efficient redirection of her unit team prevented any crisis among the inmate population. Her effective leadership skills in this situation maximized the appropriate response by staff and inmates.



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Recently at work during a significant staff assault, Melanie went above and beyond with another employee to assist the family after work hours. She maintained her composure responding appropriately to questions asked by the family and provided crisis management in a stressful situation.

Melanie also is a member of the prison's empowerment and mentoring committees, as well as the regional empowerment committee. She was a leading force in organizing and offering the local empowerment symposium. She is the co-chairperson of the mentoring committee and played an active role in organizing and revitalizing the committee at the prison.

Melanie began her corrections career as a counselor 2 at SCI Somerset. She was promoted to unit manager in 2011 and began serving as acting corrections classification program manager in 2012. Prior to working for the DOC, she worked for the Bedford-Somerset MH/MR as a caseworker and residential program director.

A graduate of Everett Area High School, she attended Everett Vo-Tech and Shippensburg University, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology.

Gary L. Smith, SCI Somerset

Gary Smith serves as a lieutenant at SCI Somerset. Over the past 19 years he has been assigned various responsibilities throughout the prison as a corrections officer, sergeant and lieutenant, including general population housing unit officer, utility officer and restricted housing unit officer. He presently serves as the prison's training lieutenant.



Regardless of rank or post assigned, Lt. Smith has recommended and assisted with implementing a number of operational changes to enhance the efficiency of operations within the prison. Since his current assignment as training lieutenant, he has been responsible for implementing new procedures to not only ensure all corrections officer trainees meet their initial year of training, but he works with the various department on all three shifts tracking all H-1 to ensure they are properly scheduled to complete their mandatory training and also any training that is part of the prison's accreditation requirements.

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Lt. Smith demonstrates a very extensive knowledge base about the various prison departments and is always willing to share his knowledge with any employee who seeks assistance. He is well respected by staff throughout the prison, promotes a team approach with everyone and encourages employees to always look at the “big picture” when making decisions. His work ethic is exceptional, and he is a true role model for experienced and inexperienced staff alike.

A long-time CERT member, Lt. Smith has served in various leadership roles such as assistant team leader and team leader. He plays a major role in ensuring that when the CERT is deployed the overall performance is highly regarded and respected.

Lt. Smith began his career at SCI Somerset in December 1993 as a corrections officer trainee. He was promoted to CO1 in December 1994, to sergeant in November 1999 and to lieutenant in February 2007. Prior to joining the DOC, he was a truck driver with a local trucking company.

A graduate of Conemaugh Township High School, Lt. Smith served in the United States Air Force and the United States Air Force Reserves. He volunteers as a basketball and softball coach for girls at the Conemaugh Township Elementary School.

Leslie Bradley, SCI Cresson

Leslie Bradley serves as a clerk stenographer 3 in the superintendent's office at SCI Cresson. She was nominated for this award because she sets an excellent example for coworkers through her job performance, organization and overall willingness to get the job done, whatever that job may be.

As part of this commitment to her coworkers and the prison, Leslie volunteers on numerous committees, and she serves as a mentor and has done so since the program began at the prison. She works on the prison's accreditation committee and has participated in mock audits at other facilities, heads the prison's Employee of the Quarter committee, and assists in annual preparations so staff can celebrate Corrections Employee Week. She participates in all of these committees with enthusiasm.



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During this past year, Leslie greatly assisted in preparing the paperwork for the Department of Justice's investigation. She worked diligently to help to gather the vast amount of documentation required by this investigation while also maintaining the smooth operation of the superintendent's office. Her organizational skills ensured that nothing was missed and that all deadlines were met.

Leslie's dedication to SCI Cresson is also evident to the fact that she has not taken a day off sick in over three years. She consistently reports for work on time and is never far from her desk. She works through lunches or stays late to complete tasks to ensure a deadline is met, and she does this without complaint or expectation of compensation. She is respected by line staff and management alike for these attributes.

Leslie also is very active in her community through her various fundraising efforts, such as participation in zumba-thons to raise money for ALS, donating baskets for raffles, raising money for breast cancer and for the family of a little girl who has leukemia. In addition to her prison job, Leslie has a second job that allowed her to donate a month's-worth of commissions to the St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

A resident of Northern Cambria, Leslie began her DOC career as a clerk typist 2 at SCI Cresson in 2005 working in both the inmate records office and the superintendent's office. She was promoted to clerk steno 3 in 2007.

Prior to joining the DOC, Leslie worked as a waitress/kitchen worker for a local hotel and then as a paralegal/legal secretary for a local law firm. A graduate of Northern Cambria High School, Leslie earned a bachelor's degree in pre-law from Mount Aloysius College. She and her husband, Grant, have one son, Tyler.

Bryan Boyer, SCI Muncy

Bryan Boyer serves as the intelligence gathering captain at SCI Muncy. He began his DOC career as a corrections officer at SCI Coal Township in 1996. After transferring to SCI Muncy in 1998, he was promoted to sergeant in 2003 and to lieutenant in 2006. For several months in 2007, he served as an acting unit manager until a full-time UM could be hired. From 2007 to 2011, he served as the prison's critical incident manager and has been an adjunct instructor for PEMA since 2007. In 2011, he was promoted to captain. He has been the IG captain since January 2013.



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Capt. Boyer's corrections background is extensive. He served on Muncy's CERT and FERT teams, instructed many firearms and security-related courses, served as co-chair of the prison's mentoring committee, and is vice-president of the prison's employee recreation association. But his work doesn't end there.

Capt. Boyer is a member of the State Incident Management Team and served as the DOC's emergency preparedness liaison officer at PEMA during Tropical Storm Lee.

Also committed to his community, Capt. Boyer has been an active member of the Hughesville Volunteer Fire Department since 1992, having served as a line officer since 1999 and currently serving as their captain. He has received the EMT of the Year award twice and also received Volunteer of the Year award.

Capt. Boyer has been a member of the incident command team for the Little League World Series since 2011. He serves in the planning section and logistics section for the Lycoming County Emergency Operations Center and is on the North Central Task Force Incident Team Committee and training committee.

Boyer, who also is an adjunct instructor for the state Fire Academy, is a husband and father, who enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, fishing, sport and four wheeling.

Prior to joining the DOC, he served in the PA Army National Guard, achieving the rank of sergeant and was section sergeant for the medical section and was a drill sergeant for three years.

A graduate of Hughesville Jr./Sr. High School, Capt. Boyer earned 21 credits in the studies of business management from Bloomsburg University.

Troy Edwards, SCI Muncy

When one thinks of Troy Edwards, corrections counselor 2 at SCI Muncy, one thinks of words/phrases such as steadfast, dependable, superb management and excellent leadership skills.

Troy has worked for the DOC for 6½ years, having started as a corrections officer in 2006 and then moving to a counselor 2 position in 2008. In addition, he also served as the acting corrections superintendent assistant for more than five years.



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He guided SCI Muncy through two successful ACA reaccreditations, where most recently the facility received unprecedented overall scores of 99.8 percent.

Troy consistently exhibits proven decision-making abilities in stressful situations. He serves as mentor and leader having headed the mentoring program at the prison, all while serving as acting CSA. He encourages staff through positive monthly e-mails on leadership and making employees his top concern.

When it came time to choose members of the statewide reentry program committee, Troy's vast knowledge of the prison made him a logical choice for that assignment. His superintendent is confident that his valuable input for development of the new system will ensure maximum effectiveness and dependability.

Troy actively serves on the prison's honor guard and the CERT team. He always places mission first and possesses an unquestionable devotion to duty. An absolute top performer in all areas, Troy continually strives to make SCI Muncy and the DOC a better place through creative ideas for improving the operation and the prison's physical plant.

Prior to coming to work for the DOC, Troy worked as a senior administrative assistant for the Muncy School District. Before that, he served in the U.S. Navy from 1985 to 2005, reaching the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer. During his military career, Troy received three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, nine Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals.

Troy, a graduate of Williamsport Area High School, earned bachelor of science degree in management from Excelsior College, NY. He also has an associate of arts degree in general studies from Coastline Community College, Ca.

Troy's dedication does not end with his career. He also is committed to his community, where he coaches soccer and basketball, conducted clothing and food drives for Hurricane Sandy victims and the local shelter and coordinated fundraising efforts for SCI Muncy's Employee Memorial Garden. On his own time, he successfully trained and prepared three high school boys for U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Navy Boot camp. All three successfully graduated boot camp and currently serve both in the U.S. and Forward Deployed.

Ebony Frith, Erie Community Corrections Center

Ebony Frith serves as a corrections counselor, and now as acting center director, at the Erie Community Corrections Center.

She has faced an overwhelming client-to-counselor ratio for the past three years and refused to water down her commitment to safeguarding the community by continuously providing quality counseling to the men we guide through the reentry process. Even with the overwhelming pressure of her daily responsibilities, she recognized the need for community outreach to better the men's chances of true reform and reintegration.

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Last year it was suggested that Erie CCC staff do better at creating, strengthening and maintaining community partnerships in order to dispel misnomers, rumors and uncertainty about the center, its residents and their value to the community. Ebony stepped up to the challenge and volunteered to be the facility's community outreach liaison. She maintains weekly contact with local supporters and acts as the lead contact for community service sites and, when possible, goes into the community several times a month to meet with various organizations.

Ebony is someone who truly believes in the mission of community corrections: to improve public safety by helping men make changes in their lives.

Ebony began her DOC career as a corrections officer at SCI Cambridge Springs in June 2007. In November 2007, she became a counselor at the Erie CCC. Prior to working for the DOC, she was academic counselor and community support specialist for the Greater Erie Community Action Committee; a case manager at Community Shelter Services; and a treatment specialist at Gaudenzia Erie.

Having attained a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Edinboro University, Ebony is presently working on a masters in forensic psychology from Walden University.

Charles Rishel, DOC Bureau of Operations

Charles "Chuck" Rishel is the architectural supervisor with the DOC's Bureau of Operations. He is described by his supervisor as an organized and efficient individual whose knowledge of building codes, construction methods and DOC operational and security requirements is unrivaled.

His leadership as project manager on the new Central Office building, Muncy's Infirmary, the last four housing unit additions and the new prison at SCI Benner Township highlighted both his capabilities as well as his dedication. The housing unit projects were very fast-paced, and he was able to provide answers to the contractor's questions quickly,



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maintain consistency between the projects and keep the institutional staff both involved and informed. SCI Benner Township was a very large and complex project involving many refinements from our previous prison designs.

Chuck had eight years of experience with a private architectural firm and a well-respected reputation when he joined the Bureau of Operations 15 years ago. He has since become the DOC's resident expert on a large array of subjects such as L&I permit requirements, L&I Industrial Board variances, the UCC building codes and detailed architectural knowledge of the DOC's construction requirements. Chuck's knowledge and capability is well known. Several other departments, including DGS, will occasionally ask Chuck for help in resolving complex problems.

Chuck participates in the design process of Capital Projects and provides both direction and design suggestions to the DGS design professionals. There have been many instances where he has suggested a more cost-effective construction method resulting in significant costs savings to the project, or a change to the building floor plan that is operationally more efficient or that increases the safety and security for staff and inmates. This is a unique benefit of Chuck's detailed knowledge and experience of the DOC's construction and operational requirements.

He has taken on the responsibility of creating and maintaining a system for storage of construction design documents for all projects, both hard copy and electronic copies. Review of the system shows that he is a very organized and efficient individual, and both the bureau and the department benefit from his capabilities. He also participated in the creation of the Work Order Management system for creation and tracking of the in-house projects. Chuck also runs the bureau's in-house design program including categorizing projects, scheduling and tracking the design work for all disciplines, creating design drawings and assembling the documents for submission to L&I for the building permit. He has an excellent relationship with each of the facility maintenance managers who frequently contact him for assistance in solving problems.

It also should be noted that Chuck has an outstanding attendance record. He averages only 2.6 days of sick leave per year.

A graduate of Penn Highlands High School in Lewistown, Pa., Chuck attended Ohio University's College of Architecture. He earned a bachelor's degree in architecture from Pennsylvania State University, where he also earned eight semester hours of post-graduate study.

Prior to joining the DOC, Chuck worked for various companies as an architectural designer and/or supervisor. He joined the DOC's Bureau of Operations in 1997 as a draftsman/supervisor and was promoted to architectural designer 1 in August 1999 and to architectural designer 2 in April 2001. He was promoted to supervisor in July 2007.

Active in his community, Chuck served as a youth soccer coach 1994 to 2002. Since 2002, he has served as a referee for a local, non-profit recreational center's indoor youth soccer league. For the past 23 years he also has served as a PIAA soccer official. He also has served on the Thompsett Borough Council.

~ Medal of Valor ~

Michael P. Glenn Sr., SCI Mercer

On June 29, 2012, Lt. Glenn left SCI Mercer at the end of his 10-6 shift. At this same time, he saw an individual running away from a Pennsylvania State Police trooper, who himself appeared to be injured and was limping.

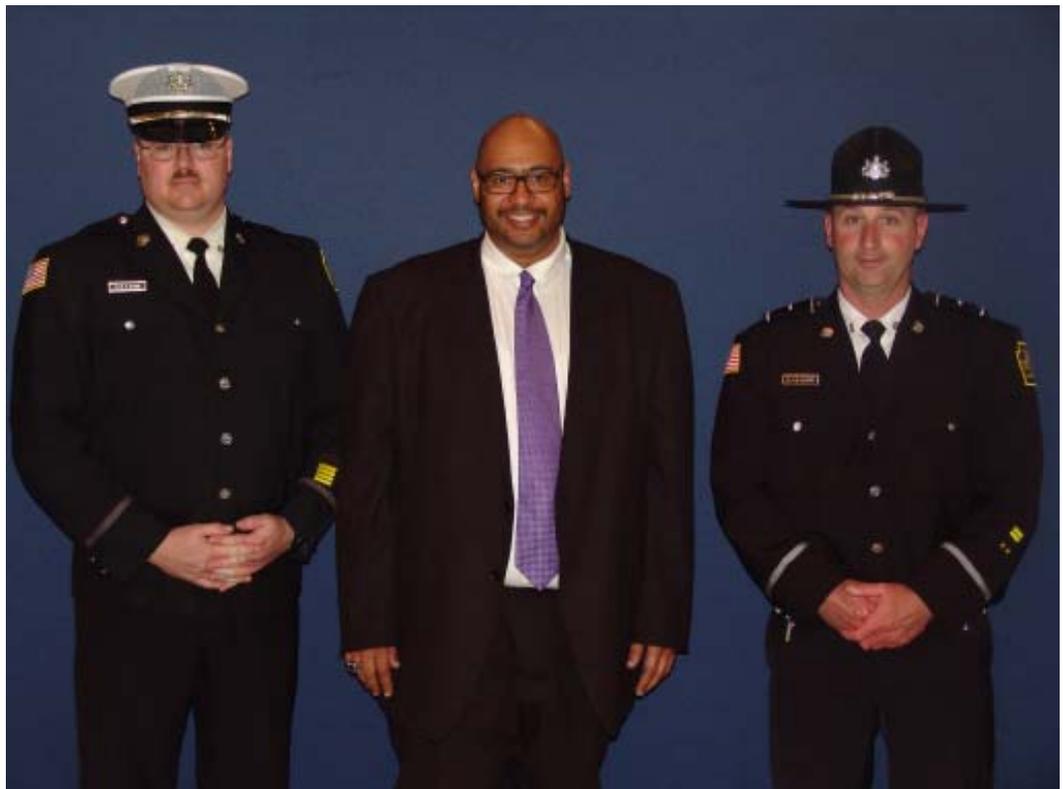
Lt. Glenn identified himself to Trooper Turik, who had been involved in the foot pursuit. Trooper Turik directed Lt. Glenn to Trooper Morris, who was also involved in the foot pursuit of this individual.

Trooper Morris told Lt. Glenn that the individual being chased ran into a nearby field, where he was located hiding behind a tree.

Lt. Glenn instructed the individual to stay where he was, but he took off running again. Lt. Glenn chased the individual until he finally stopped running and laid on the ground. Lt. Glenn then assisted Trooper Morris in securing the individual and assisted in escorting the individual back to the PSP patrol vehicle. Lt. Glenn then checked on the status of the initial trooper, Trooper Turik, to ensure he was ok.

According to the State Police, Lt. Glenn's quick response and volunteering of assistance, without hesitation was instrumental in the capture and taking into custody of this wanted individual.

As a result of his actions, Lt. Glenn was commended in August 2012, by the PSP's Troop D. Most recently, in February 2013, Lt. Glenn was the recipient of the Corrections USA Image Award for his heroic deed.



Medal of Valor recipients Lt. Michael P. Glenn Sr. (left) and Lt. Scott Slippey (right) with Secretary Wetzel.

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Lt. Glenn began his corrections career as a corrections officer trainee at SCI Pittsburgh in May 2004. In December 2004, he transferred to SCI Forest, where he worked until he transferred to SCI Mercer in February 2007. While at Mercer, he was promoted to sergeant and then lieutenant. In his current capacity as lieutenant, he performs the duties of a shift lieutenant on the 2-10 shift. Prior to joining the DOC, he worked at Lezzer Lumber.

A 1996 graduate of Franklin Area Junior/Senior High School, Lt. Glenn is a 15-year veteran of the U.S. Army and the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. He joined the PA National Guard in August 2003 and has performed active service for recovery operations due to the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon, and he has completed one tour of duty in Iraq with the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Scott Slippey, Quehanna Boot Camp

On January 25, 2013, Quehanna Boot Camp Lt. Scott Slippey was traveling home on I-99 from Claysburg where he had been attending a wrestling meet. Snow had been falling throughout the day, and as darkness fell, roads froze and became icy and treacherous. He was following an SUV at a reasonable pace when it suddenly fishtailed back and forth and then flipped up in the air and rolled over several times out into the wooded area beside the road.

Lt. Slippey questioned what he had seen happen in front of him, but pulled off the road, jumped out of his truck and ran to the vehicle, which had landed on its roof after hitting a tree.

He could hear screams and a child crying. The side windows were knocked out of the vehicle but all doors were locked. It was dark outside so he responded to voices and went to the passenger side where a woman was screaming. She was upside down in the vehicle and unable to move, although she claimed no injuries. Lt. Slippey helped her move to where she could escape through the window and she became hysterical, claiming she had two kids in the car.

Lt. Slippey then attempted to remove one child from the rear of the vehicle but the car seat blocked the window and he was unable to reach the child. He then proceeded to pry a bent corner of the door and eventually succeeded in wrenching the locked door open. The three-year-old child was hanging upside down in her car seat and bleeding but seemed okay. Lt. Slippey was able to finally free her and climbed inside for the second child, who was in an infant seat. The child was unharmed and was able to be removed more easily than the first. Because it was dark outside and the urgency of freeing the occupants of the vehicle was over, Lt. Slippey then noticed the driver was lying motionless on the driver's side floor. He attempted to rouse him and was able to assist him in exiting the vehicle; he then moved him farther away from the vehicle to avoid any explosions or further danger. The man then collapsed again.

Another driver finally stopped, and Lt. Slippey informed her of the wreck and asked her to call 911, which she did. Ambulance and police vehicles arrived shortly and took over at the scene. Lt. Slippey said he was glad he had chosen to return home that night, as he had

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intended to stay at a hotel. His sentiment is that "everything happens for a reason," and he believes he was meant to be following the SUV so that he would be there to help.

If he hadn't observed the accident, the vehicle may have gone unnoticed in the woods to the side of the road, as there were no lights after the wreck and it was at least 50 yards off the road; it may not have been discovered for hours.

Lt. Slippey is a 23-year veteran of the DOC, with 20 years of service at the Quehanna Boot Camp as a drill instructor and drill instructor lead trainer. He began his corrections career at SCI Huntingdon in August 1990 and transferred to the boot camp in April 1992. He was promoted to sergeant in 1993 and to lieutenant in 1999.

A 1987 graduate of Juniata Valley High School, Lt. Slippey served in the U.S. Armed Forces from 1987 to 1990.

~ Mentor of the Year ~

Daniel S. Ottaviani, SCI Coal Township

Daniel Ottaviani has served as an electronic skills occupational teacher at SCI Coal Township for the past 11 years.

According to the prison's mentoring coordinator, Daniel was the prison's first volunteer to become a mentor when the institution began the mentoring program five years ago. Daniel continually provides outstanding support and leadership for SCI Coal Township's Mentoring Program.

He improved his role in the mentoring program by serving as a member of the local mentoring committee and was very instrumental in writing a mission statement for the local mentoring program.



Daniel attended the Local Mentoring Coordinator Instructors Course in September 2010 at SCI Graterford with several other staff members. At this time he became qualified to instruct the four-hour mentoring training for new mentors. The training was also utilized as a sounding board to generate new ideas about how to improve the program as the group interviewed mentees and mentors on shift at SCI Graterford.

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Although Daniel completed the previously-mentioned course, he attended the course again at SCI Coal Township in April 2012. At this meeting, it turned into a workgroup to identify and improve the statewide mentoring program. Daniel participated in several ideas and suggestions to improve the reporting system.

He assisted in the instruction of new mentors in a four-hour class several times in calendar year 2012. Not only has he trained new mentors, but he also used a PowerPoint presentation to describe the mentoring program to staff members during their training day.

Currently, Daniel has two mentees (a food service instructor and a business education teacher) and has completed mentoring another. His knowledge and implementation of DOC policies and procedures have been consistently recognized in mentee reports, all of which have been submitted on time and all with positive comments.

In the community, Daniel is an active certified instructor and mentor for the hunter and safety program for adults and children for Columbia County. This program is more designed for the children than the adults.

His unselfish performance, inspiring knowledge and dedication to his position and the mentoring program is clearly recognized and respected by his coworkers.

~ Thomas A. Fulcomer Award ~

Ulrich Klemm, DOC Bureau of Treatment Services

Ulrich "Ulli" Klemm, who began his career with the Department of Corrections in March 2004, serves as the department's religion, volunteer and recreational services administrator with the Bureau of Treatment Services.

Ulli goes to great lengths to acquire and maintain professional connections and contacts in order to do his job to the best of his ability. Oftentimes he incurs significant travel expenses for which he does not request reimbursement in an effort to minimize costs to the DOC. Not only does Ulli, of his own free will, accept personal financial responsibility in doing his job, but he also volunteers countless hours to perform his duties in the most thorough manner.

He has taken complete ownership of his area within the bureau. He is continuously motivated to make improvements in policy and practice, and proactively takes the necessary steps to do so. He has done a remarkable amount of work in order to give structure to staff at the state prisons, specifically in the area of significant policy changes and development of a handbook for facility chaplaincy program directors.

Acknowledgement and appreciation of those who serve as volunteers in the DOC are very important to Ulli. He makes it his business to attend as many local volunteer banquets as possible, representing Central Office in the most grateful fashion. Ulli typically travels alone to attend these events, sometimes traveling hours to and from the most distant state prison in a day's time. Furthermore, he almost single-handedly organizes and facilitates the DOC's annual statewide volunteer banquet held at the Training Academy.

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Ulli is a very active and positive member of the Bureau of Treatment Services team. He recently coordinated a trip to a local baseball game for staff members and their families – an event that was very well attended and strengthened the overall working relationship within the bureau. On another occasion, he brought into the office the ingredients and equipment to make homemade ice cream, and co-workers took turns churning the ice cream during their lunch break. He recently coordinated after-hours swing dance instruction for all Central Office employees.

These are just a few examples of Ulli's generosity, kind spirit and genuine concern for his fellow workers. He truly embodies all of the characteristics and traits that the Thomas Fulcomer Award represents.

Prior to coming to the DOC in 2004, Ulli spent 12 years working at the Allegheny County Jail as the director of chaplaincy services. Prior to that, he served as a pastor in Chicago, IL.

Ulli is a 1976 graduate of Hauptage High School, NY. In 1980, he later graduated from Colgate University with a bachelor's degree in German literature, with a minor in religion. He earned his Master in Divinity from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in 1985.

A member of the PA Prison Chaplains Association – where he served as vice president for three years and is now a member of the planning committee – and of the American Correctional Chaplaincy Association Northeast – where he was elected regional manager and organized the annual training conference for five years in a row – Ulli's community involvement is impressive. He coordinates his church's monthly visits with residents of the Cumberland Vista Group Home for Developmentally Disabled Adults. At his church he ministers to children and volunteers at the annual senior citizens luncheon. He sings at local nursing homes and coordinates activities and worship time at a summer camp for developmentally disabled adults.

Ulli lives in Mechanicsburg with his wife, Theda. They are the proud parents of daughter, Karisa, and son, Kelvin.



Pictured from left to right are: Bureau of Treatment Services Director Shawn Kephart, DOC Director of Treatment Services Tracy Smith, Fulcomer Award recipient Ulrich Klemm and Corrections Secretary John Wetzel.