



Highway Patrol Retirement System

Newsletter

June 2013

Attention Aetna Medicare Advantage Members!!

As a result of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Medicare will begin rating the quality of Medicare Advantage plans. These ratings will help to compare plans based on quality and performance. Through information from member satisfaction surveys, plans, and health care providers, Medicare Advantage plans will be rated on a 1-5 "Star" scale based on the following criteria:

1. Staying health: screenings, tests, and vaccines
2. Managing chronic (long-term) conditions
3. Member experience with the health plan
4. Member complaints, problems getting services, and improvement in the health plan's performance
5. Health plan customer service

By meeting these measures, Medicare provides incentives to the plan (in our case, Aetna) and the Primary Care Physician. As the customer, you are encouraged to do the

following:

- Make sure you are seeing your Primary Care Physician as indicated for your chronic conditions and receiving preventive screens, diabetes-related screens/tests, and cardiovascular-related screens/tests.
- Be responsive to telephone calls and/or mailings from Aetna related to your personal health and wellness issues.
- Respond openly and honestly to telephone calls requesting that you evaluate your experience with Aetna. **Aetna will use these evaluations to improve the quality of services that they provide. In addition, your evaluation will be used in determining Aetna's "Star" rating, which, in turn, can influence our premium cost.**

As always, if you are experiencing difficulty with your medical or prescription providers, please call HPRS for assistance.

Correction:

Delta Dental mailed a letter in April regarding dependent children coverage terminating at age 23. Please note that the correct age of termination is 26, not 23 as stated in the letter. All affected termed dependents have been reinstated with no loss in coverage.

OPERS Money Purchase

On May 1st, we sent out information advising re-employed retirees participating in OPERS's Money Purchase Plan of changes coming September 1, 2013. At that time, OPERS will begin using a market-based variable interest rate for the annuity factors used to convert

lump sum account balances to monthly annuities. What this means is, if you are age 65 and do not retire from your current OPERS-job before **August 1, 2013**, and you choose your benefit to be in the form of a monthly annuity instead of a lump sum, your monthly benefit will be reduced from the current calculation, and in some cases it could be significant. It does not impact a lump sum payout.

Please go to the OPERS website and log in to your account for more information. If you think this may affect you, you are strongly encouraged to contact OPERS at 1-800-222-7377. You can obtain an estimate comparing your monthly benefit prior to and after the change so you can see the effect it may have on your monthly benefit. They will answer any other questions you may have.

Make Plans to attend the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retiree's Association Sunbird on August 24, 2013 at the Ohio Veteran's Home Pavilion in Sandusky, Ohio. Reservations are due by August 1, 2013.

Information can be obtained by going onto the Retirees' Association website at www.oshpretiree.org. You may also contact Doris Blosser at 614-430-3554.





A Word from Colonel John Born

Recently, the Ohio State Highway Patrol crossed a historic threshold. The graduation of the 154th Academy Class brought us to full-strength and led us to a place we have never organizationally been in our 80-year history. I commend Captain Charles and the Academy staff for the work in training the 153rd and 154th classes – the two largest overlapping classes in our history. We have hired and trained nearly 300 new troopers in the last two years, allowing us to overtake attrition and repair serious personnel shortages. Academy personnel have also been integral during the past two years with numerous organizational accomplishments including the new Academy upgrades and have been instrumental in training with new equipment, vehicles, rifles, and shotguns.

As you may know, we also recently completed the biennium budget (HB51) process which has set us on a course for continued operational successes into 2020. The behind the scenes efforts of Major Davis, Major Teaford, Captain McGinty, and Captain Gaskill and the many staff members who worked long hours in the last eight months have paid off. In addition to the \$600+ million funding biennium for our agency provided in HB51 that takes effect July 1, 2013, we took a historic step toward preserving the integrity of our organization with some additional statutory provisions. Among the changes, we achieved assurance that all ranks, from Trooper to Lieutenant Colonel, are classified positions. Additionally, HB51 provides that future Superintendents shall hold the rank of Colonel and be appointed from within the eligible ranks of the Patrol.

These Ohio Revised Code changes, along with the strong and stable funding supported by Governor Kasich and the Ohio House and Senate, ensures that our organization will be further insulated from political interference. In short, Ohio's top elected leaders, Governor Kasich, Speaker Batchelder, and Senate President Fa-ber have proven they strongly support the Ohio State Highway Patrol and our mission. You should know this would not have been possible without the determined efforts of Director Charles. During budget hearings, legislators in the Ohio House and Senate, both Republicans and Democrats, were very complimentary of the work and results accomplished by the women and men of the Patrol.

It's important to note however that despite a successful budget process, the Division is still operating on a very thin financial margin, little more than the appropriations we received in 2007. We continue to prioritize spending to allow us to cover increasing fuel costs, health care costs, and to emerge out of the vehicle, equipment and personnel hole into which we had fallen. We frequently make difficult spending choices, such as limiting uniform and equipment options, but the fact is we cannot afford to continue to cover payroll, modernize our fleet, and upgrade our safety equipment, without choosing carefully.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is well positioned to contribute to a safer Ohio. Now, it is up to each one of us to take advantage of this opportunity.



Col. John Born



During March and April, in conjunction with the OSHP, five financial planning/retirement informational meetings were held around the state. Executive Director Mark Atkeson speaks to active members in Canton.

Save the Date!!!

OSHP 80th Anniversary Celebration

November 16, 2013

Aladdin Shrine Center

\$50.00 per person

If you have not yet received information, please contact Sylvia Martinez at smartinez@dps.state.oh.us or 614-752-4672.

Health Care Screenings Are Available Again!

Approximately two years ago, the firm that provided body scans for HPRS members went out of business. Since that time, we have been searching for a replacement. In June, HPRS entered into a contract with Central Ohio Primary Care Physicians (COPC) to provide screening services for HPRS retirees and spouses enrolled in our health care coverage. The screenings include the following:

1. **CT coronary artery calcium scoring**
2. **Carotid artery ultrasound screening**
3. **Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound screening**
4. **CT lung screening (for current or former smokers only)**
5. **Bone density screening (for members not eligible for the lung screening)**



Screenings will be performed at COPC's facilities at 4885 Olentangy River Road in Columbus or 291 W. Schrock Rd., Suite B in Westerville. The screenings take less than an hour to perform and there is no cost to the member. Results of the screenings will be given to the member at the conclusion of the visit. Based on COPC's medical advice, screenings will be performed only once every four years. HPRS recommends that eligible members and spouses schedule the screenings in conjunction with the Comprehensive Wellness Exam (GXT) that is available at the Ohio Health facility at 300 Polaris Parkway near Westerville. COPC's Schrock Road site is only about 2 miles away.

To schedule screenings, call COPC at 614-273-0411 or toll free at 877-273-0411. Wellness Exams (GXT) can be scheduled by calling Robert Glenn at 614-566-2222 ext. 4795.

In an Emergency: Know Where to Go

In an emergency, it's important to know where to go for the care you need. Here's some information to help you be prepared to get the right care at the right place:

⇒ Call your Doctor

Your doctor can tell you if you should go the emergency room or wait to be seen in the office. Most doctors' offices have time set aside for patients who are ill or injured. Some are available after hours for emergency care. Talk to your doctor about what to do in an emergency.

⇒ Walk-in clinics make it easy

Walk-in clinics found in grocery stores and pharmacies typically keep extended business hours and are open most evenings and don't require appointments. They provide convenient, low-cost treatment for minor medical problems such as ear infections, colds, allergies, strep throat and bronchitis. It's also a great place to get your seasonal flu shot!

⇒ Urgent care centers – for serious but not emergency care

Urgent care centers can provide care for more serious problems such as sprained ankles, fevers and minor cuts and burns. They cost much less than a visit to the ER. Get familiar with in-network urgent care centers and walk-in clinic locations in your area before you need them.

⇒ Save the emergency room for true emergencies

If you feel that someone's life's in danger, don't wait — call 911 or go straight to the nearest emergency room (ER). The ER should be used for true emergencies only, including chest pain, bad bleeding and trouble breathing. True emergencies are treated first, so unless your life is in danger, you'll wait — sometimes for hours. The ER is also your most expensive option for care.

⇒ Next time, stop and consider your options

Old habits can be hard to break; you might always think to go to the ER first. But, stop and realize that you have many good options for your health care needs. When you understand your options, that's when you'll make the right decision, and you'll get the right care at the right price.

Aetna members have the following resources available 24/7:

Informed Health® Line — Call toll-free **1-800-556-1555** to talk to a registered nurse whenever you have a health question.

Aetna Navigator® — Check out your plan details, programs available, claims status and much more — right on your secure member website at www.aetna.com.

Aetna IntelliHealth® — Look up a condition or treatment, or ask the experts easily at www.aetna.com.



From the Director

You have all received a Biographical Data form, and we appreciate you returning them. Why do we need this update? Due to a number of factors, we have found many errors and omissions in our system database. Erroneous information included invalid addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers, incorrect spousal and dependent information, and improper application of health care benefits. Without complete and accurate information, we are at risk of improperly administering benefits. Please remember to notify HPRS anytime there is a change in your information, by telephone, mail, email, or directly online.

Later this summer, we will be distributing a health care form that will need to be updated. It is imperative

that you complete and return it in a timely manner, even if you believe there are no changes. We recognize this may be an inconvenience, but it is needed to ensure that proper health care benefits are being applied. With health care costs far exceeding health care revenue, we must be diligent in overseeing this program.

Also keep in mind anytime you have a qualifying change in employment, marital status, or dependent status, you must notify us of the change as soon as possible.

You will be receiving ballots and voting information later this month for 3 trustee positions; 6 active members have submitted for 2 spots, and 3 retired members for 1 spot. If you do not receive a ballot

by June 29th, contact us immediately if you want a ballot as you only have until July 10th to do so. Please take the time to submit your vote for your representative on the Board of Trustees.

As always, please contact me or any member of staff if you have any questions.

-Mark Atkeson



*Our office will be closed on —
Thursday, July 4 (Independence Day)
Monday, September 2, 2013 (Labor Day)*

Date	Investment Portfolio Market Value	YTD Increase/Decrease
4/30/2013	\$754,442,000	7.3%
3/31/2013	\$749,183,000	
12/31/2012	\$717,036,000	
12/31/2011	\$679,404,000	



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