



How the Gray Riders Brought Law and Order to Rural New York 100 Years Ago

For immediate release.

Vestal, NY - WSKG invites you to tune-in for this 90-minute documentary event--the premiere of 'The Gray Riders' by Emmy® Award-winning filmmaker Brian Frey.

The film takes viewers back to the founding of the New York State Police 100 years ago, when law enforcement in upstate New York state wasn't a sure thing. Discover the story of how the Gray Riders first came to be and how its legacy has continued through the service of many men and women.

In the Spring of 1913, Samuel Howell, the foreman of a construction firm, was attacked and robbed of the company's payroll by four men on a rural road near the town of Bedford in Westchester County. He was shot seven times. Howell identified his attackers before he died, but the local police, fearful for their own safety, refused to pursue Howell's assailants. They were never convicted.

Outraged over Howell's murder, Moyca Newell, whose home Howell was building, along with Katherine Mayo, lead the effort to establish a police force that could protect the rural communities of New York State.

The Department of the New York State Police was called to duty on April 11th, 1917. That fall the first 232 troopers rode out of the New York State Fairgrounds on horseback to begin patrolling New York's rural areas. Then as today, troopers have been there to fulfill the law enforcement needs of the people of New York State with the highest degree of fairness, professionalism, and integrity.

2017 marks 100 years of service for The New York State Troopers.

The film blends photographs and rare footage from the New York State Police archives with reenactments and dozens of interviews from the men and women who have served with the State Police. Those officers who have made it what it is today – one of the finest and most respected law enforcement agencies in the world.



Tune-in and learn the legacy they have built by tuning in to 'The Gray Riders' on **November 16, 2017 at 8pm.**

For media inquiries and sponsorship opportunities around production of THE GRAY RIDERS, contact Michael Grasso at mgrasso@wskg.org or 607.729.0100 x307.

WSKG