

# THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum

212 N. Hwy 101, Rockaway Beach, Oregon (503) 457-6056

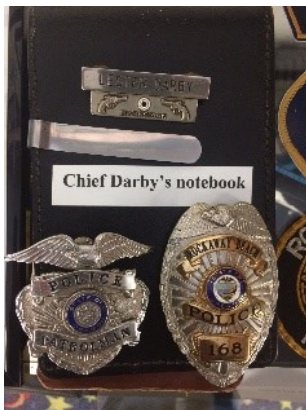
Volume 5 Issue 1 January 2020



**Welcome to the Scanner**, the official newsletter of the International Police Museum at Rockaway Beach.

IPM had another year of increased visitors and other exposures. We finished the year with 5,832 visitors, about a 10% increase over 2018. We have now hosted over 20,000 visitors since opening in the fall of 2015. IPM members made additional presentations to the Tigard Kiwanis's Club, Tillamook County Young Professionals, and the National Night Out Against Crime, sponsored by the Rockaway Beach Police Department. These exposures, along with our participation in the annual 4th of July parade, helped raise awareness of the museum and exposed us to many more people. We conducted three fundraisers which helped support museum operations; Spring Garage Sale, July 4 Auction, and the Holiday Fair in November. IPM supported the Christmas tree lighting at the wayside, providing the PA system and the MC for the event (Director Wortman).

We finished the year financially solvent which I believe is a tribute to our volunteers and frugal management. Donations are up slightly in 2019, in keeping with our increase in our attendance and exposure. We remain a free museum since we have no staff on duty to collect an entry fee and to pay an employee would eat up the entry fee, even at 5.00 per visitor. We had one unexpected capital improvement which we did not expect this year - the replacement of a heat pump unit which we were obligated to replace by contract.



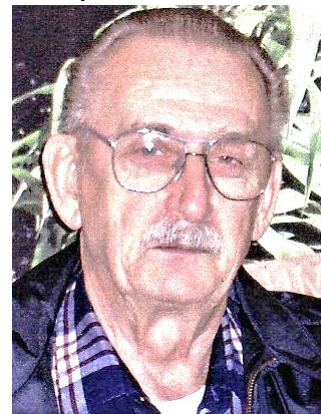
Most of our visitors are families with children who can observe history, learn about various facets of law enforcement, and interact with the displays, such as fingerprinting, the motorcycle ride, or the jail bars. Some come seeking reference material or information on relatives who served in law enforcement, such as Chief Darby of Rockaway Beach. Young people enjoy the "Bear Facts" game, finding the small teddy bears representing various police entities, guarding the display cases. This exposes them to historical people and events. They will find information about Joe Meek, first US Marshal, Oregon Territory, a

Polygraph display, early forensic items such as the Smith and Wesson Ident-a-kit, used to make a mechanical composite of a suspect or witness, and an early Breathalyzer used to measure a driver's alcohol intoxication level. Other displays feature early telephones, typewriters, cameras, and sewing machines, many from our local people or area. The displays are of interest to the adults as much as children, and it is fun to hear parents and grandparents explain that these were the things they used when they were young. It warms my heart when I hear reports from the docents (volunteers) about young people entering the area behind the jail bars, trying to wiggle them and declaring "I never want to be in here for real." We are reaching some of them in a positive manner.

Looking forward to 2020 and the next decade will not be without challenges. IPM will face multiple challenges in the coming year as outlined below:

- **Display Maintenance and Upgrades:** One of the purposes of IPM is to draw people into Rockaway Beach, give them a reason to stop and see something unique, and then spend a bit of time exploring local shops or restaurants. Display changes, however slight, ensure that visitors see something new each time they come to the museum and do not just pass it by because "always the same". IPM added a City of Rockaway Beach history display in the fall of 2019, using

## Meet your Museum Volunteer



**Harold (Hal) McMahan**, became a museum volunteer in 2017.

Hal enlisted in the Airforce in 1953, serving as a photographer in Japan and later in Korea. Seeing front line action, he photographed prisoners and air to ground strikes. Discharged in 1953, Hal drove for U.P.S for 25 years. During that time he also served as a Reserve Police Officer, Sergeant, firearms instructor, Motorcycle rider / Instructor at Sheriff's department. A passionate professional photographer, Hal, in his semi retirement, is a freelance photographer working with Nehalem Fire District and local papers. At the museum, Hal uses his extensive experience to help young people trying on the various police uniform equipment. His public interaction and knowledge has contributed positively to the visitor experience at the museum.

two showcases which held other Oregon police information to appeal to a broader spectrum of visitors. Our wooden water pipe, and information on the city formation and early settlers shows how a city has grown. A display of tools, early household items, and pictures provide a look at what Rockaway Beach was in the beginning. The Tillamook County Law Enforcement display features all the law enforcement agencies serving Tillamook County. This is supported by a larger statewide Oregon display. IPM is always seeking local historical artifacts for display.

- **Publicity and Advertising:** Advertising has primarily been done using print media, the website, and social media. Board Secretary, Jane has done the yeoman work on social media and we have been reasonably successful as more people are commenting in the visitor log that they saw us online. Statistics from our online sources show 11,689 unique visitors in 2019. Online advertising is also an industry trend, so we need to ensure that our message plays well on smart phones, tablet, and similar devices.

Our print communication will continue in the "Mile by Mile Guide", published by Coast Magazine, and "Venture Coastward", published by the Tillamook Chamber of Commerce. Tillamook Chamber has been a supporter and they distribute copies of the Venture Coastward throughout the state. Periodic ads will be run in the Shopper for our fundraisers, but these are not multi hundred-dollar expenditures.

One benefit of our advertising is that we have received numerous donations of patches, uniforms, hats, and badges from the US and around the world. This all adds to our potential display pool so we will not have to leave displays stagnant. Two vacationing Constables from England, one from Australia came by along with US and Canada officers.

- **Grant Funding:** We have received advertising grants from the Tillamook County Tourism in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Other grant funding has been sporadic with some funds coming in from US Bank and small donations from the Lions Club and the Hope Chest. These have been used to support our children's interactive area and the fingerprint kits supplied to parents. We will continue to actively seek grants and funding opportunities.

### Coming Events

**A City Born, Rockaway Beach 1909 to present;** See the foundations of Rockaway Beach through pictures and artifacts. See a wooden water pipe from the 1915 -1925 era which was excavated in 2018 during the replacement of a water line. View pictures of the evolution of the city from the "Daddy Train" and wooden roads to the modern, bustling city.

**Garage Sale Fundraiser;** Memorial Day weekend, May 23-24. 315 N. Easy St. Please see our website for more details.

### New acquisitions

**Durham Constabulary, England, Helmet and Hat;** Constable Geoff Moore, Durham, visiting museum

**Kent Police, England, hat, badge and patches;** Constable Des McLaughlin, Kent, visiting museum

**Portland Police Bureau antique memorabilia;** Det. Marcia Carson, PPB ret

**Restraints, baton, San Francisco memorabilia;** Mr. Glen Pennebaker, ret., Turner, Oregon

**Badges of Sheriff Jack Utterback, Marion County, ret.;** Mr. Tom Hedgecoke, Oregon State Police, ret.

**Tillamook Police memorabilia;** Chief Terry Wright, Tillamook Police

**Tillamook County Sheriff uniform;** Sheriff Andy Long, ret

**Pennsylvania State Capital Police uniform;** Mr. Erick Hoffman, ret.

**Seeking for display;** Artifacts wanted for Tillamook and City of Rockaway Beach display. Old photos of police, city buildings or functions. Badges, uniforms, equipment, and documents depicting early City or County development, including items of local historical interest such as hardware, documents of appointment or photographs of citizens or dignitaries.

### Help us keep history alive:

Your donations allow us to bring the law enforcement experience to life for visitors, school children, and other tour groups. The International Police Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations may be made directly to the Museum, at any U. S. Bank branch, or online at [www.internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://www.internationalpolicemuseum.org).

Photos; Wortman, McMahan and Milwaukee Police Facebook. Reference (1) <https://njmaritimemuseum.org/the-importance-of-museums-preserving-local-culture>

## Bringing History to Life, Today's International Police Museum: Ed Wortman, Chief of Police, retired



Today's museums are light, vibrant and interactive. They present both an educational and historical perspective which arouses the creativity of the viewer, leading to potential opportunities for the future. Otto Petermann, as an example, looked at early attempts to make a compact typewriter in 1909 and thought, "I can improve on that." The result was the Corona #3 folding typewriter on display at the museum. The #3 was successfully marketed for 1912 to 1941 with only minor changes. While preserving and contrasting how something was made to the current state of the art, a museum can educate, spark imagination and invite improvement. Many local museums are small, but offer a special glimpse into the history, the present, and future of a specialty genre such as logging, maritime history or in the case of the international Police

Museum (IPM) in Rockaway Beach, Law enforcement. All use a combination of interactive activities combined with visuals and videos of history to introduce the possibilities of the future.

IPM is a primarily self-guided museum with many of the artifacts under glass, which allows close inspection without endangering either the fragile or sensitive artifacts and the visitors. IPM also ties together the interaction of daily life, local activity and law enforcement. IPM has in addition to uniforms, restraints, badges and weapons associated are with law enforcement, a selection of other artifacts used in daily life. Early artifacts including tools, shaving gear and household items from the formation of the City of Rockaway Beach are on display. Many artifacts such as telephones, typewriters, radios and other communication devices were used by both law enforcement and citizens. IPM has examples of wall mounted hand crank telephones through the modern cell phone era. There is a "police call box" used in cities when police officers walked a beat and needed a secure way to communicate with the station. These limited use telephones were encased in locked, cast iron boxes with special keys issued to the officers. One of a beat officer's prized and important possessions was their call box key. Known as the Police Telegraph, these boxes originally gave the beat officer the opportunity to summon the Sergeant, medical or fire response. Telephone handsets were added in the 1930's to enhance communications. Today this task is generally accomplished by radio or cell phone.



Modern museums of all sizes, whether those with large acreage and buildings such as the Tillamook forest center or smaller, single room museums such as the International Police Museum in Rockaway Beach, are constantly changing to improve interactive opportunities. No longer are museums the dim, sometimes musty caverns where there is nothing to do except walk in confined space between dimly lit exhibits. These museums strive to frequently change exhibits to provide a new experience for returning visitors, connecting visitors through all the senses of sight, sound and touch. Visitors are encouraged to see historical items, listen to recordings or watch videos and touch or wear some items. Some museums may feature live re-creation of events relevant to history, and invite visitor participation,

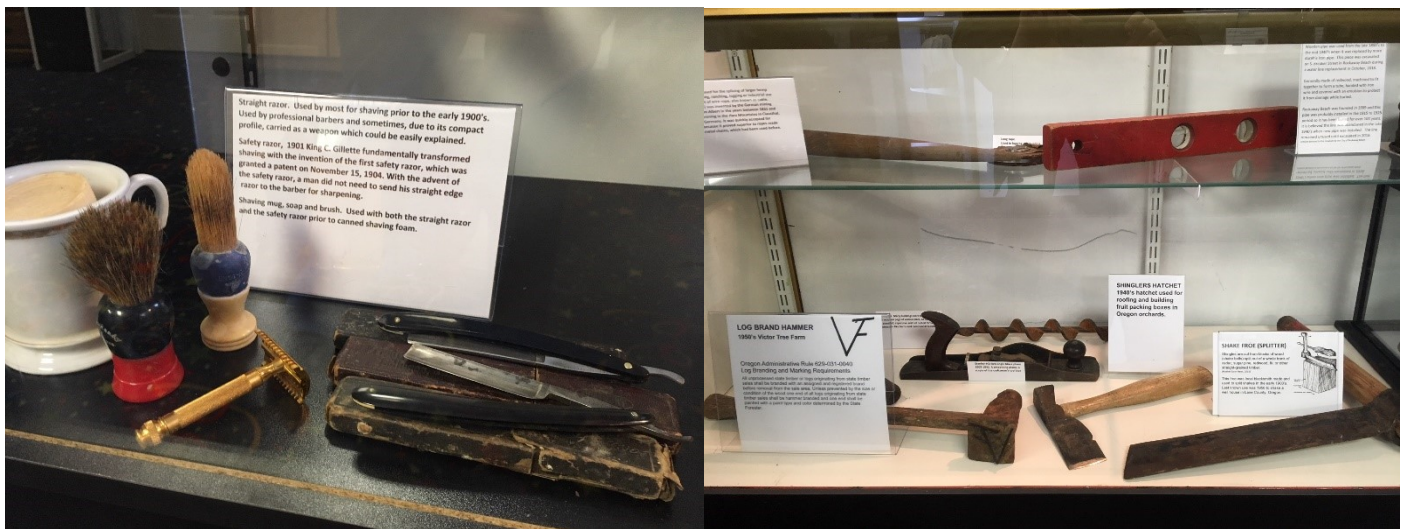
thus allowing them to share the experience. At IPM, a visitor can make an image of and identify their fingerprints, try on a ballistic (bullet proof) vest or stand behind a real set of jail bars. By experiencing the evolution of items, visitors gain a better understanding of our history which may in turn spark their imagination on how to improve the future, Museums provide students and visitors with a perspective or starting point to ask "why" or better yet, "why not?" Museums play a crucial role in preserving local culture. Through careful documentation and artifact preservation, a culture can be recorded and remembered regardless of its future. It can also be shared and understood by those from different cultural backgrounds. Research indicates that museums document daily life, educate others to local culture, display alternative perspectives on history and connect those of different backgrounds. (1)

IMP provides visitors another reason to stop in Rockaway Beach, to see history and encourage them to linger in the city, have a coffee, a meal, perhaps stay overnight and to see what else is available. Museums contribute to the city economy by entertaining and providing a reason to spend time and money here.





International Police Museum  
212 N Hwy 101, PO Box 165  
Rockaway Beach, OR 97136



**SEE OUR NEW CITY OF ROCKAWAY BEACH DISPLAY WHICH OPENED IN SEPTEMBER 2019**

“Bringing Police History to life, It’s Not All Guns and Cuffs”

INTERNATIONAL POLICE MUSEUM, ROCKAWAY BEACH, OR

[www.internationalpolicemuseum.org](http://www.internationalpolicemuseum.org)